

INSIDE



TRAVEL

Stepping out
at the bottom
of the world



REVIEW

The brave men who
fought unwinnable
war at Gallipoli

BOOKS

Miles Davis
mugged by his
own words

gland

LAST MONTH'S
AVERAGE DAILY SALE
432,000
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THE TIMES

1200 90p

SATURDAY MARCH 3 1990

Thatcher hits back at poll tax criticism Shetland leads way with the lowest rate

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister will today launch a defiant defence of the poll tax and attempt to reassure alarmed Conservatives in Westminster and the country.

As Mrs Thatcher prepared to face down her critics at the party's local government conference in London today, she was given ammunition to justify her position when Wandsworth council set a poll tax figure £23 below the Whitehall target.

The Wandsworth community charge will not, however, be the lowest in Britain. That will be the £127.30 to be levied in the Shetland Isles, although the area's small population and the presence of the North Sea oil installations mean Shetland is widely regarded as a one-off case.

The average charge in Scotland this year will be £328, a rise of £27 over last year. The highest is in Edinburgh, where the capital's population will pay £438. £246 more than last year; and the lowest on the mainland is in Sutherland, at £232.

The charges for other cities include £338 in Glasgow, from £306 last year; £305 in Aberdeen, up £1; and £336 in Dundee, a £12 increase.

There was more bad news for the Conservatives yesterday when the former Mayor

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in Brighton followed the example of 18 West Oxfordshire councillors and resigned the party whip.

As the town council prepared for a second all-night attempt to fix its community charge, Mr Robert Crisofoli said: "The party is committing political suicide over the tax. It is time the Prime Minister and her gang of lemmings realised that the country should come first". He said the Tories faced being "slaughtered" in the local government elections in May.

With a Labour lead of 18.5 points in the latest opinion poll and the Government facing serious economic difficulties, Mrs Thatcher will today be making one of her most crucial speeches since becoming Prime Minister.

Ministers are, however, braced for a barrage of criticism. The revolt around England continued yesterday, even reaching the Prime Minister's home town of Grantham. There, 10 Conservatives demanded that council cash reserves be used to trim £18 from the £278 charge, but were defeated.

In Langbaugh, Cleveland, Conservative absences left Labour councillors in a majority of one on the finance committee, and they proceeded to refuse to recommend a community charge, voted to abolish the tax and

decided to send a protest letter to Mrs Thatcher. A council spokesman said "this slight hiccup" would be corrected at the full council meeting.

Darlington's "hung" district council set a £356 community charge, then demanded a general election on the issue.

Mr David Hunt, the Minister for Local Government, led the chorus of approval for Wandsworth, hailing its announcement as a "superb" result. He compared the figure with neighbouring Labour-controlled Lambeth, which he claimed was charging £650, and said: "We have seen how Labour's policy in London is the highest charge they can get away with. Wandsworth's charge is an exemplification of Conservative policy - the lowest consistent with a proper level of service."

But the Wandsworth figure was derided by senior Labour politicians as an futile attempt to take pressure off the Government. While other London boroughs paid into the safety net, Wandsworth received £24 million in safety net grant.

Mr David Blunkett, the Opposition spokesman on local government, accused the Government of manipulating the grant system to reward councils such as Wandsworth while punishing everyone else.

"It is little more than political bribery," he said.

As Conservative MPs returned to their constituencies, a succession of the Prime Minister's most senior colleagues sought to steady the party's nerve by highlighting the record of high-spending Labour-controlled councils.

Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, said in Portsmouth that councils had to get their spending under control. While it was always difficult changing to a new system, the logic of the community charge was irrefutable.

It was better that everyone paid something and without such a system it was unlikely that sensible local government would ever emerge.

Curb on pilots' hours will raise air fares

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Air fares will have to rise by at least 7 per cent as scheduled airlines throughout Europe are forced to employ an additional 3,800 pilots at a cost of more than £320 million a year to meet new regulations limiting flying hours now being proposed by the European Commission.

Airlines were only told of the new proposals in detail last week and immediately warned that if they are adopted schedules could be thrown into chaos and many small airlines

could fold. The proposals are in a draft regulation due to be discussed by the Council of Ministers in June, and could become law by the summer and be in full effect within the next two years.

The change would reduce the number of hours pilots could fly to no more than eight in any one day and 120 hours in a full year - 25 per cent below the strict limits already imposed by the Civil Aviation Authority.

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Lyons letter to Thatcher

Sir Jack Lyons, a defendant in the Guinness affair trial, wrote to the Prime Minister asking that the company's bid for the Distillers group should not be referred to the monopolies authorities. Southwark Crown Court was told yesterday that Mrs Thatcher accepted his invitation to a lunch with leading industrialists. Page 3

New leader

Yales play their first international match under Ron Norstrom, their new coach, when they meet Scotland at 2000. A win for Scotland will keep them on course for the grand slam. Page 4

Scots pressure holds back the clock

By Quentin Cowdry, Home Affairs Correspondent

Ministers are to postpone further discussion of whether British time should be harmonized with the rest of Europe because they fear it will embroil the Government in yet more controversy.

The Government, which at one stage mildly favoured the proposal, intended to allow MPs a free vote on the issue over the next few weeks to pave the way for a possible time-changing Bill in the next parliamentary session. Harmonization would mean clocks going one hour ahead of Greenwich Mean Time in

winter and two hours in summer. The new system, technically known as "single-double summer time" would mean lighter summer evenings and darker winter mornings, with the biggest changes felt in the North of England and in Scotland.

However, ministers worried about the hostility harmonization has provoked in Scotland and the Government's generally embattled position, believe the question should be delayed.

Senior Whitehall sources said yesterday Brussels was

Continued on page 16, col 2

Mr Crichton-Miller: Britain faces "worst of all worlds".

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Mr Crichton-Miller: Britain faces "worst of all worlds".

keen that Britain should follow the rest of the European Community and put its clocks back in September rather than October, but was not pressing for complete harmonization.

Mr Angus Crichton-Miller, chairman of the Daylight Action Group, which has been pressing for Britain to "Europeanize" its time, said: "We are very disappointed that the Government has decided to prevaricate."

He said independent research indicated that har-

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Revitalising the Highlands.

By

Richard Owen, Gilo, Israel, and Martin Fletcher, Washington

One of the many surprising facts about the Highlands and Islands Development Board is that it still exists. It was founded in 1948. On Monday, an Arab League delegation arrives in Moscow to persuade Soviet leaders to reduce the flow of Soviet immigrants, and Israeli officials fear that speculation over the high numbers of Jews going to Israel could undermine immigration to Israel proper.

Speaking at a civic lunch attended by M Jacques Chirac, the Mayor of Paris, the Queen said it was clear that Glasgow, which the industrial revolution had made famous throughout the world, was still demonstrating an international

Proud title handed on

By Kerry Gill

Glasgow's celebration as European City of Culture will leave a lasting legacy to the spirit of Europe, the Queen said during a visit to mark the official handing over of the title from Paris.

Speaking at a civic lunch attended by M Jacques Chirac, the Mayor of Paris, the Queen said it was clear that Glasgow, which the industrial revolution had made famous throughout the world, was still demonstrating an international

Continued on page 16, col 8



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THE BODY BEAUTIFUL.



THE LANCIA DEDRA is a long, lean, mean, dream of a car. Full of the flair, innovation and style which label it exclusively Lancia.

But more, it is a super-fit car, which is designed to take on the likes of Audi and BMW.

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The muscle of the Dedra comes from a choice of 1.6, 1.8 and 2.0 litre fuel-injected engines. The 1.8 and 2.0 litre have counter

rotating balancer shafts which give a four-cylinder engine the smoothness of a six. The 120 bhp 2.0 litre version has a top speed of 124 mph. And ABS braking is available on all models.

The wind-cheating, Audi-beating Cd factor of 0.29 contributes to exceptional fuel economy. All Dedras run on unleaded fuel, proving that they are not just mean but clean. And therefore fit for the environment.

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As is the dashboard, finished in polished rosewood.

In addition, SE and 2.0 litre versions have Alcantara suede upholstery, split folding rear seats and an electric glass sunroof. While the top-of-the range 2.0 litre SE has ABS and Automatic Suspension Control, which adapts itself to suit your chosen driving style - enhancing comfort and safety. All as standard.

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THE NEW LANCIA DEDRA



Prime Minister at lunch with defendant as DTI investigated Guinness

Personal plea to Thatcher in takeover war



Sir Jack Lyons: "A senior financial City figure."

A defendant in the Guinness affair trial wrote to the Prime Minister asking that the company's bid for the Distillers group should not be referred to the monopolies authorities, it was disclosed in court yesterday.

And within five weeks of the Department of Trade and Industry beginning its investigation into the takeover, she accepted his invitation to a high-powered lunch with leading industrialists. Southwark Crown Court was told.

Sir Jack Lyons's letter asked for an "even-handed decision", his barrister, Mr Robert Harman, QC, told the court, and about two weeks later the bid was cleared.

Sir Jack, Ernest Saunders, the former chairman and chief executive of Guinness; Gerald Ronson, chairman of Heron International; and the stock broker Anthony Parries, aged 24, counts of their false accounting and breaches of the Companies Act.

Mr Harman said that about five weeks after the Department of Trade and Industry began its inquiry, the Prime Minister accepted a lunch at Sir Jack's invitation at Bain and Co, management consultants.

Guinness withdrew their original bid and proceeded to launch a new bid which not only contained terms more favourable to the shareholders of Distillers, but was one in

tants to Guinness. Mr Olivier Roux, Guinness's former finance director, agreed that the company's bid for the Distillers group should not be referred to the monopolies authorities, it was disclosed in court yesterday.

Leading industrialists were

which the Distillers company agreed to sell off certain brands so that any fear of UK competition was eliminated.

"I am writing to you personally because I am concerned with the fact the right stewardship for the Scottish whisky industry is an important national matter, more at this time than ever during your leadership, and that the next decision probably due within the next one to three days, should not be left to the Office of Fair Trading or a junior Department of Trade and Industry minister because of a relation-

ship of the Secretary of State. "I do therefore hope that you take steps that will lead to an even-handed decision."

Mr Harman explained that because the then Secretary of State, Mr Paul Channon, was a member of the Guinness family, he had handed responsibility for the issue to Mr Geoffrey Parries.

The Prime Minister replied two days later, that the decision was not a "collective government" one, but a matter for Mr Parries.

The reply said: "Paul Channon has, as you say,

CHARGES

Ernest Saunders, aged 54, of Putney, south-west London, faces two charges of conspiring to contravene the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act; two of authorizing or permitting Guinness to contravene the Companies Act; eight of false accounting; two of theft; and one of destroying company documents.

Carols Mason, 50, of Hampshire, south-west London, faces one charge of conspiring to contravene the Companies Act; one of aiding Saunders to contravene the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act; one of aiding Saunders to contravene the Companies Act; four of false accounting; and one of theft.

Sir Jack Lyons, 74, of Kensington, west London, faces one charge of conspiring to contravene the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act; one of conspiring to contravene the Companies Act; one of aiding Saunders to contravene the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act; one of aiding Saunders to contravene the Companies Act; four of false accounting; and one of theft.

Mr Harman said the "unreality" of the bid had been on everybody's mind. Mr Saunders and another Guinness director, Mr Thomas Ward, believed Sir Jack's intervention had been "crucial" in that process.

delegated this particular decision to the minister of state Geoffrey Parries. I feel that Geoffrey Parries should know the contents of your letter, but as you marked the envelope private and personal I would not want to pass it to him unless you wished me to do so. Perhaps you could telephone my office if you would like this to be done."

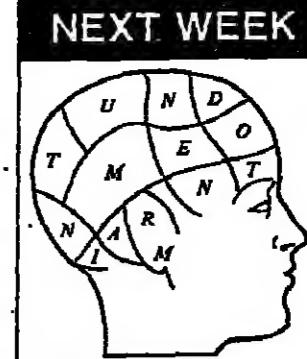
Sir Jack replied that he did not object to the suggestion, the court was told. "Then within about a fortnight Guinness was notified that their second bid should not be referred," Mr Harman said.

Questioned by Mr Harman, Mr Roux said he had seen a draft of the letter, but did not recall the answer to it.

He agreed that the decision not to refer the bid was welcomed with a sigh of relief.

"It meant we could go on and try to win, as opposed to being subject to the whims of the political process."

Mr Harman said the "unreality" of the bid had been on everybody's mind. Mr Saunders and another Guinness director, Mr Thomas Ward, believed Sir Jack's intervention had been "crucial" in that process.



NEXT WEEK

TOURNAMENT OF THE MIND

● Do you know the difference between pannage and pannophy? If you do, or know where to find the answer, then you should pencil a reminder in your diary for next Tuesday. That is the first day of *The Times Tournament of the Mind*, played over 20 rounds with questions devised and marked by Mensa.

● Queues will form outside libraries, housework will stay undone and puzzle aficionados will stay home, wrestling with logic, numeracy, and general knowledge. This third annual trial of intellect has become almost an obsession for some, and the rewards are more than the satisfaction of meeting a challenge. The winner receives £5,000. The winning school team receives a computer.

● This year, for the first time, every entrant will receive a special certificate. Those who score above a certain level of points will receive a personalized bronze, silver or gold certificate. The top 100 entrants take part in the final five rounds, beginning on April 23.

● To make the search for the winner even more exciting, the top 10 individual scorers from the finals will be invited to London to take part in a play-off final against the clock.

● Last year's winner, Andrew Johnston, will be defending his title and offers this tip for fellow contestants: "The key is defining precisely what the problem is."

● As a taster, try this:

What is the species name of the largest monitor lizard? The answer, if you need it, is on page 14.

Duchess is sued by Barclays

Barclays Bank has launched a High Court legal action against Margaret, Duchess of Argyll, over a £25,000 debt. It says the Duchess, aged 77, whose second marriage to the 11th Duke of Argyll ended in divorce in 1963, is overdrawn on her current account at its Piccadilly branch.

In a writ issued in the Queen's Bench Division, the bank says that on November 20 last year the Duchess, of Cliveden Place, Belgravia, west London, was overdrawn by £24,715.34.

This figure included money lent to her and interest on it. The bank says it has made a formal demand for repayment but has received nothing. Since then interest of £1,231.19 has been added to the debt, bringing it to £25,946.53 at the beginning of this month.

The writ says that sum will continue to grow by £12.79 a day, with interest at 3 per cent above the bank's base rate, until judgement of its claim or payment.

PORTFOLIO

There were no valid claims in yesterday's Portfolio Platinum competition, so the prize money on Monday will be doubled up to £4,000.

Two years for man who tried to sell stolen works of art

By Sarah Jane Checkland and David Sapsted

An Irishman who tried to sell some of the world's finest paintings, stolen from the Beit Collection in a £30 million art theft in 1986, was sentenced to two years in prison at Southwark Crown Court in London yesterday.

Detectives said that the conviction brought them no nearer to solving Ireland's biggest art theft, which took place at the home of Sir Alfred Beit, the South African diamond magnate, in County Wicklow.

The 17 paintings stolen included Velasquez's "Kitchen Maid with the Supper at Emmaus", Frans Hals' "The Lute Player", Vermeer's "The Letter Writer" and the portrait of "Dona Antonio Zarate" by Goya. Six were recovered after the raid and police in Turkey are questioning a Scotsman about the robbery following the discovery of another picture a few days ago.

John Naughton, aged 48, formerly of Dublin, admitted dishonestly handling stolen goods from the Beit Collection, Mr Anthony Leonard, prosecuting, told the court that Naughton was trusted "by well-organized, high-level thieves" with disposing of some of the collection.

Naughton was arrested by New Scotland Yard's Art and Antiques Squad in May last year after it was contacted by Mr Trevor Henry Hallwood, a London art dealer. He was approached by Naughton in March 1988 and was initially offered a Gainsborough painting worth £400,000 (assumed to be "The Cottage Girl"). A group of 13 pictures were

gradually introduced but never seen. They included a Guardi, Matisi and a Goya.

Naughton went to see the dealer one day, told him to cancel whatever he was doing, as they had to move quickly to Geneva where the client was waiting.

The dealer had "eased" a conversation with Naughton. He offered to telephone the police and the Irishman panicked, saying that, if he did, they would both be killed.

Mr Peter Feinstein, defending, told the court that Naughton was a "Walter Mittyish character" who made no profit from the venture whatsoever. "He was a fish completely out of water at the end of the line. He's an extremely native man and this was a completely unreal world for him," counsel said.

Judge Robert Taylor said: "I accept that you are somebody who in the past has been a hard worker and a decent and honest man. I also accept that you are a Walter Mittyish character who was naive and very much out of your depth."

"The difficulty I have in your case is that you acted on behalf of professional thieves to dispose of extremely valuable paintings when a great deal of money is at stake."

"It is because people like you lead yourself to this type of conduct that thieves are enabled to reap the proceeds of this type of professional crime."

Naive Riley, a clerk, duped Camden Council in London out of £37,000 and went on to secure credit worth hundreds of thousands of pounds after dishonestly obtaining mortgages and reversing standing orders, it was said.

Riley also extracted huge sums from British Telecom and the Electricity Board by resubmitting their bills. British Telecom sent her a cheque for £126,000.

Over nine months, Riley, a mother of two children, duped the Eastern Electricity Board by claiming it owed her £79,000 for an "electrical substation" in her back garden; claimed that British Telecom owed £500,000 for a "damage claim"; took a cheque from

Inspector takes stock of the flood of claims



Mr Shaun Lloyd, an insurance claims inspector, making his way through the streets of Towyn yesterday as a few residents returned to check the damage.

Deception charges

Woman cheated council and companies out of £900,000

A woman council worker cheated companies and ratepayers out of nearly £900,000 by sending back bills submitted to the council and claiming that the companies owed her money, Southwark Crown Court, south London, was told yesterday.

Riley, an administrative assistant with Camden Council in London out of £37,000 and went on to secure credit worth hundreds of thousands of pounds after dishonestly obtaining mortgages and reversing standing orders, it was said.

However, of the total of £893,000 worth of credit she secured, only £32,000 so far remains uncovered.

Riley, an administrative assistant with Camden Council in London out of £37,000 and went on to secure credit worth hundreds of thousands of pounds after dishonestly obtaining mortgages and reversing standing orders, it was said.

Riley admitted four charges of deception, one of theft, one of obtaining property by deception and false accounting between November 1988, and July last year. Six other charges were left on file not to be proceeded with.

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Mr Andrew Coleman, for the prosecution, said that David Longmore, aged 26, who was living with Riley, had received an 18-month suspended sentence four weeks ago for mortgage frauds.

Judge James Halman told

Mr Edwards to "be an intelligent young lady and you knew exactly what you were doing. It seems you were motivated by resentment, possibly, and certainly by greed."

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Sadness and stench as residents return

By Rosalind Fawcett

Mrs Lynn Lawrence, with tears in her eyes, returned yesterday to what remained of her home, devastated by the floods that poured through the sea wall at Towyn, Clwyd.

She was arrested at her home in Nelson Mandela Close, Tottonhoe, north London.

Riley's defence counsel Michael Haynes said his client encountered prejudice at work. For an "intelligent and articulate" person, she was under-employed at the council, "completely wasted in her job". He also said that she had a chip on her shoulder.

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Owen in attack on Gorbachov

Dr David Owen, leader of the SDP and a former Foreign Secretary, launched an astonishing attack on Mr Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, last night and accused Mrs Thatcher of failing for KGB propaganda which attempts to portray him as a democrat.

In a speech in Cardiff which puts him out of step with almost every senior politician in Britain and western Europe, Dr Owen claimed that Mr Gorbachov's good press was due to the fact that "the KGB is more successful in moulding Western opinion than Soviet opinion".

Dr Owen said: "Mr Gorbachov is not a democrat and we should stop pretending that he is. No one gets to the top of the greasy pole in the Soviet Union only to hand over power to the people. He is using the Communist Party to assume the powers of a dictator greater than some past Ceasars."

The SDP leader said that there was no prospect of a market economy in the Soviet Union and that it was only economic considerations which had led to the relaxation of the Soviet grip on the Warsaw Pact countries.

Blood theft sentence

A motorist who agreed to give blood at a police station after a breath test proved positive was handed both blood samples in mistake by the police who should have kept one for analysis, Chichester Crown Court was told yesterday.

When Peter Hamsher, aged 27, of Byron Close, Bognor Regis, left the police station he poured both samples away. Hamsher pleaded guilty to committing an act likely to pervert the course of justice and the theft of a blood specimen. He was given a three-month jail sentence suspended for a year.

Man ran gun factory

A former UDR soldier was convicted at Belfast Crown Court yesterday of running a loyalist arms factory at his engineering works. Sam McCoubrey, aged 47, a self-taught engineer, of Dunmore Road, Spa, Ballynahinch, Co Down, will be sentenced next Friday after he was convicted of seven charges relating to the production of stem guns and component parts for Uzi-type sub-machine guns. Two other men will be sentenced with him.

Tougher GCSE soon

Changes will make the GCSE tougher over the next four years. Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, told the annual meeting of the Governing Bodies Association of the independent schools yesterday (Our Education Editor writes). The examination had been widely accepted, but some worries remained, he said. Syllabuses from 1994 would require higher standards: "It will be very demanding."

'Three Graces' delay

A government decision on whether to permit the export of Canova's statue "The Three Graces" has been put off for a further three weeks. Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said in a Commons written reply that he had deferred until April 4 the decision on the application for a licence to export the statue to the Getty Museum in California. An earlier time limit was due to expire at midnight on March 12.

Highlighting hedges

Scottish farmers are to be encouraged to improve the management of their hedgerows by taking part in a competition to discover the best examples across the country (Kerry Gill writes). The contest, promoted by the Farming, Forestry and Wildlife Advisory Group, aims to highlight the need to encourage good hedgerow management to enhance the attraction of the countryside. Examples of good hedgerows are considered few and far between.

Legal action threat over Cairo tragedy

By Libby Jukes

Survivors of Thursday night's fire at the Hotel Sheraton in Cairo have threatened legal action against the hotel and criticised the Egyptian emergency services for their slow response to the tragedy in which at least 16 people died.

Three British fashion journalists, a nurse and an elderly American couple, who arrived at Gatwick airport yesterday, all talked of inadequate fire precautions at the luxury hotel.

As they headed for home, the husband of Mrs Janet Parker, editor and publisher of *Cosmetics International* magazine, flew to the Egyptian capital. Mrs Parker, aged 42, of Northwood in Middlesex, is among three women still missing from a party of 23 British journalists.

Miss Marion Hause, aged 27, who writes for the *Sunday Times*, said: "The Sheraton ought to be called to account. You assume that an international hotel would conform to certain international standards. This one was only up to the very low local Egyptian standards."

"I saw a huge flash as the tent went up. There were people just standing around and watching. It was a shambles — there were no exit lights and no fire alarms."

William and Beata Hayton, of Chicago, described how they stepped on several bodies as they struggled down six flights of stairs with wet towels round their heads.

"There was no proper escape route from the hotel," Mr Hayton said. "The fire services did not turn up for an hour. The firefighting did not look good."

March 2 1990

Cost-sharing hope for the Channel Tunnel

By Michael Dynes, Transport Correspondent

The financial obstacles standing in the way of building the Channel Tunnel rail link could be overcome by sharing the costs of construction, and the additional capacity, between domestic and international rail services, it was claimed yesterday.

Public investment in the new link, although prohibited under section 48 of the 1987 Channel Tunnel Act, could receive government approval on the ground that it would also provide the additional capacity needed to relieve congestion on the busy commuter lines in Kent, informed sources say.

Although all capital investment by British Rail must satisfy the Treasury's stringent "eight per cent return" requirement, Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Transport, has already conceded in

principle that this rule might be relaxed "on social and economic grounds".

In a letter to Sir Robert Reid in December, Mr Parkinson said that where "investment cannot meet the eight per cent test, I shall want a cost-benefit evaluation to be carried out ... to enable me to decide whether capital grants would be justified on wider social and economic grounds".

The "cost benefit" concession could enable Mr Parkinson to grant approval for some public investment in a new rail link in Kent, which could be shared by commuter services, and the planned Channel Tunnel inter-capital services between London, Paris and Brussels.

Approval for such investment would probably still violate the legal prohibition against subsidizing international passenger services, and

would have to be sanctioned by a clause in the proposed Channel Tunnel Rail Bill, granting an exception where investment also leads to improvements in domestic services, informed sources say.

However, in order to guarantee passage for the proposed legislation, the Government would also have to abandon its "hands off" approach towards the project, and take on the responsibility of promoting a hybrid Bill in place of the planned private Bill.

The change of tactic would enable the Government to marshal party discipline to "neutralize" the anticipated 1,000 objections against the private Bill, due to be submitted in Parliament in November, which many seasoned observers believe will obstruct its passage through Parliament.

A hybrid Bill, which, unlike a

private Bill, can be submitted to Parliament at any time in the legislative timetable, would provide greater flexibility. However, it would be tantamount to an admission that the Government's cherished objective of encouraging the private sector to take the lead in new transport infrastructure projects is "frustrated with difficulties".

The legislative and financial obstacles confronting the troubled Channel Tunnel rail link are now so "overwhelming" that they can only be resolved with a substantial infusion of public funds, and a decision by Government to take the initiative in the legislative process, the source added.

Although final costings for the link, especially for the revised overland route from Swanley into central London, will not be available until April. Officially, Trafalgar

House acknowledges "there are some difficulties" financing the £3.5 billion route, together with the £1.1 billion needed to upgrade the existing route. But it remains adamant they can be overcome, giving the company "something like an 18 per cent return on our investment".

Nearly 44 million passengers a year are expected to travel through the Channel Tunnel by 2003, ten years after its opening. Mr Michael Portillo, Minister for Public Transport, forecast yesterday in Commons written reply.

However, an attempt to lift the bar on the Government giving cash aid for British Rail's high speed link through Kent to the tunnel was blocked in the Commons. The Channel Tunnel Act (Amendment) Bill, launched by Mr Robert Adley, MP for Christchurch, failed to gain its second reading.

Inquiry is launched to track down NI millions

By Sheila Gunn, Political Reporter

An inquiry has been launched to identify employers suspected of withholding from the Government hundreds of millions of pounds in National Insurance contributions.

The National Audit Office, the independent public spending watchdog, said yesterday that a lack of skilled staff to conduct checks and evasion by some employers suggested "large-scale undercollection of contributions". It also disclosed that it will carry out its own investigation, although it may be hampered by a lack of powers to inspect the records kept by employers and the self-employed.

Mr Dennis Skinner, Labour MP for Bolsover, has estimated that up to £1 million a day in NI contributions are being lost because of a lack of proper controls on employers.

Yesterday, in a report, Mr John Bourn, Comptroller and Auditor General at the NAO, said: "Significant doubts now exist about the effectiveness of these controls to ensure contributions received are materially complete and accurately calculated."

His findings led him to qualify last year's National Insurance Fund accounts.

Employers are required to work out contributions for staff and pay these to the Inland Revenue or the Department of Social Security. They are also left to calculate statutory sick pay and maternity pay.

The NAO found that the department had a backlog of suspicious returns to be investigated which:

- had incorrect or incomplete stated earnings; or
- did not match the department's records; or
- did not identify the contributor adequately.

Some 67,000 visits were made in 1988/89, far below the target of 200,000.

Two internal department reports in 1987 and 1989 found that the National Insurance inspectorate had inadequate resources, a fragmented and diffuse management and a lack of meaningful performance targets.

Mr Bourn said: "Additionally there were inadequacies in the training of inspectors and a deep sense of frustration. The reports also suggested that, because of the lack of skilled resources to deal effectively with non-compliance and because of deliberate evasion by some employers, there was a large-scale undercollection of contributions."

His report said that errors in paying unemployment benefits led to £55 million in underpayments last year and £38 million in overpayments.

Mr Michael Meacher, the Labour social security spokesman, described the NAO's report as an indictment of the Government's record as a steward of public funds.

The Commons public accounts committee is to take evidence from Whitehall officials on the NAO's report.

Play becomes a double family affair

Chekhov check: Cyril Cusack, the veteran actor, with his daughters (from left), Niamh, Siobhan and Sorcha; and, below, Vanessa and Lynn Redgrave.



Chekhov's *Three Sisters* is becoming more than a literary family affair. Two of the great stage families are taking nepotism to the boards with the play (Simon Tait writes).

Cyril Cusack is to star in it in Dublin with his daughters, Siobhan, Niamh, and Sorcha, it was announced yesterday.

On Monday the Redgrave family is also to stake its claim to the Russian classic. Vanessa Redgrave, her sister Lynn and Vanessa's daughter, Joey Richardson, will announce that they will be in a West End production in November.

Their version of the Russian drama is to have an even more poignant aspect. It is the first time the sisters have appeared together professionally, and will be directed by Robert Sturz, the Russian director of Krasnaya Theatre in Tbilisi, Georgia.

BAe plants vote for return to work

By Tim Jones, Employment Affairs Correspondent

The long and damaging strike in support of a 37-hour week which has crippled the British Aerospace plant at Chester for 18 weeks, causing a severe setback to the Airbus programme, ended yesterday when workers voted by three to two to return to work on Monday.

There will also be a return to work at the company's Preston plant where a recommendation to accept a deal was accepted during a stormy meeting at which union cards were torn up and demands made for the resignation of local union leaders.

Both plants will immediately introduce a one-hour cut in the present 39-hour week with a further hour reduction next year. The company said yesterday that the agreement meant the reduced working week would be self-financing and involve changes in working practices.

In spite of the settlement at Chester, which makes wings for Airbus, BAe may still face a claim from the other partners in Airbus Industrie for £70 million as

compensation to the consortium for losses.

Because of the dispute, which came at a time when Airbus was challenging Boeing to become market leader, it will be at least a year before production rates return to normal at the Airbus final assembly plant in Toulouse.

Production which had been running at about 11 aircraft a month has been cut to one. Monday's return to work is likely to involve the company in a huge overtime payments bill as it gears up to recover lost ground.

The settlement, hailed as a breakthrough by union leaders in their campaign to extend the 37-hour working week throughout the British engineering industry.

Wildcat strikers who have caused the loss of nearly £270 million worth of production at Ford yesterday refused to end their unofficial strike and go back to work (Kevin Eason writes).

The 550 craftsmen — unwilling to take the pay deal accepted by the rest of the

company's 32,000 workforce — snubbed their own national union officials who asked them to go back to allow a full return to the assembly lines by 11,000 workers, laid off for seven weeks as a result of the dispute.

Ford will now go ahead with calling back 8,000 production workers at the Halewood plant on Merseyside in a move to break the craftsmen's strike.

Although a small group of workers, the craftsmen carry out vital maintenance and repair tasks which allow assembly lines to run smoothly.

The 8,000 Halewood men sent home because maintenance could not be carried out will now be asked to allow managers to carry out the jobs of the craftsmen when they are called back to work from Monday.

Mass meetings tomorrow will decide whether to accept the company's call to cross picket lines, set up by the Amalgamated Engineering Union craftsmen, so that the huge Halewood plant can start operating again.

EC air crew proposals**BA says costs will soar if hours cut**

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

British Airways, which employs 2,732 pilots, estimates that it would have to take on an additional 600 flight deck crew at a cost of £53 million if new European regulations limiting air crews flying time are introduced.

The airline would also find itself competing for staff with every other European airline at a time when the industry is suffering from a desperate shortage of trained crews.

The rules would mean, for example, that the Heathrow to Chicago route would be too far for a single crew. Charter airlines and small airlines such as Virgin Atlantic which mainly operate long-haul services would be particularly badly hit.

Air Europe calculates that the proposals would force it to increase its pilots by 55 per cent and that its European subsidiary, Air Europe, would have to find 70 per cent more flight deck crew.

The European Commission is, however, determined to press ahead with the proposals which are part of a move to harmonize standards throughout the Community.

Mr Karl-Heinz Neumeister, Secretary General of the Association of European Airlines which represents the scheduled carriers, said in Brussels yesterday: "This has come as a terrible shock to us. It is an astonishing proposal which is based on ignorance and which we can neither understand nor tolerate."

He claimed that airlines had not been consulted about the proposals.

"It is going to mean that my members will have to find between 25 and 50 per cent more pilots to come into force in May which crews claimed were too short anyway."

"I have already written to the Commissioner explaining that this is exactly counter to the drive they are making towards reducing air fares within Europe by increasing competition. They are asking for liberalization so that fares can be brought down and

PARLIAMENT**Labour MPs angered by Tory blocking tactics**

Labour MPs backing a Bill to provide compensation for ex-Servicemen suffering from cancer resulting from nuclear tests angrily attacked the Government and some Conservative backbenchers for adopting tactics to prevent the Bill being debated.

They said that the men or their widows would not understand the "partisan games" being played.

Appeals to the Chair and the moving of a procedural motion to end a debate so that the compensation Bill could be considered all failed.

The Bill to require developers to get planning permission before demolishing houses took all the time allowed for debating private Members' measures, but also failed to get through after Mr Michael Spicer, Minister of State for the Environment, had made clear that the Government opposed it.

Its sponsor, Mr John Wilkinson (Ruislip, Northwood, C) had indicated his willingness to curtail debate on his Bill so that time would be available for the Radiation Exposure Compensation (Benefits) Bill. But other Conservative MPs kept the debate going.

During Mr Spicer's speech, Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) called for an immediate vote on the planning Bill. He alleged that the minister was "stretching the thing out" and that it seemed that the whips had brought in other Tory MPs "to talk even more". This was despite the fact that Mr



Mr Wilkinson: Unprincipled practices forced old people out.

When Mr Hugo Swinnerton (Walhamstow, C) started to speak, Mr Skinner said that all members of Lloyds ought to declare an interest before speaking because the Bill being blocked involved compensation so it would not be in the interest of Lloyd's that it should be passed.

Moving the second reading of his Bill, Mr Wilkinson said that it would make it obligatory to apply for planning permission before demolishing a dwelling house.

People could not comprehend why planning permission was required before a householder could initiate relatively minor changes, whereas to turn that home by demolition into waste ground was "unrestrainedly permitted".

Teachers and pupils praised for exciting approach to classics

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

The ghost of Tom Browne was finally laid to rest yesterday by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools, when it reported that Latin and Greek were among the most excitingly taught subjects.

Although available in a dwindling number of state schools, classics were a thriving and exciting part of the curriculum, the inspectors said, reporting on a survey of 20 schools offering Latin and Greek.

In a report marked by praise for teachers and pupils, the inspectors said that pupils displayed an "infectious enthusiasm" for the subject and commended teachers for setting high standards.

They said that many pupils chose Latin or Greek for the reason that they were difficult subjects because they relished the challenge and enjoyed the confidence gained in mastering them.

The inspectors found that children "welcomed the regular testing" involved in the more formal approach adopted by some of their teachers and praised their "vigorous interest and insight". Throwing aside the

reserved style which normally marks their reports, the inspectors were moved to note: "It was exhilarating to observe the confidence and excitement of pupils."

Of one class, the report added: "Pupils responded with a vivid enthusiasm that made the lesson a memorable experience."

• Fears that a new system of school financing will lead to large-scale teacher redundancies were heightened yesterday by the disclosure that at least 30 teachers in Cambridgeshire are to lose their jobs because of budget cuts.

The first firm evidence to support claims that the implementation of the new national system for giving schools control of their budgets would lead to job losses caused immediate alarm among the teachers' unions.

The National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, which last year predicted that the jobs of between 15,000 and 30,000 teachers would be at risk, said that the Cambridge cuts would be repeated nationwide. Mr Nigel de Gruchy, its general secretary-designate, said:

"This realises our worst fears. At a time of teacher shortage it is sheer madness to be sacking teachers. Everybody will suffer — most of all, the children."

One school in St Neots is having its £1.9 million annual budget cut by £95,000. At another, in Ely, seven teachers and an unspecified number of ancillary staff will lose jobs because of a cut of £57,500.

Cambridgeshire County Council was a pioneer of the new scheme and is therefore in a different position to many other authorities introducing the system, known as Local Management of Schools, for the first time next month.

The county council said: "Schools are given their budgets and it is up to them to make savings where necessary." At the City of Ely College, which must lose seven teachers, Mr Roger Daw, the headmaster, rejected the county council's suggestion that savings could be made elsewhere. "Of a £1.5 million budget, £1.3 million is salaries," he said. "How on earth do they expect me to make savings without cutting staff?"

They have created a crop-protecting spray with a simple but powerful action that ensures bugs never become immune to its lethal effect. At the same time crops are freed from hazardous chemicals that can contaminate land and rivers and harm animals and humans.

Conventional insecticides use toxic chemicals to poison pests. The safe spray, code-named Hugite, suffocates bugs at a vulnerable phase in their life-cycles.

After a crop-damaging fly has laid its eggs, the young spend time developing in a grub chamber called a pupa case before bursting out as adult pests.

Mr Robert Pickford, a biologist, led a team which developed a method of coating the cases with a harmless, but tough film that trapped the pests inside.

Mr Pickford, a scientist with Humber Growers, a glasshouse firm near Welton Waters, north Humberside, based his thinking on the use of starch to stiffen collars.

The idea came to him while his wife was ironing.

The result is a watery solution made from a starch derivative, dextrin. When sprayed on to hot-house cucumbers it traps the grubs. Mr Roger Sayer, managing



Safe spray: Mr Robert Pickford, who led the team to develop a pesticide made from a starch derivative harmless to humans

culture. Fisheries and Foods approval for commercial use. Mr Cliff Clephane, head of horticulture at Lincolnshire College of Agriculture, Lincoln, said the invention was a tremendous breakthrough.

"The problem of residues in crops is close to my heart and if this product can rid us of them it would have ramifications throughout the world."

'Promising' anti-Aids drug to undergo £1m trials

By Thomson Prentice
Science Correspondent

The most promising anti-Aids drug since the development of AZT is to be tested on hundreds of British patients in a clinical trial costing more than £1 million.

The trial, announced yesterday by the Medical Research Council, is expected to begin in the next two months and will involve about 300 volunteers who have Aids or symptoms of infection by the human immunodeficiency virus, HIV.

The investigation is into the potential benefits of a drug called didoxoymidine, or DDI, which appears capable of slowing down the replication of the Aids virus.

International researchers are excited about its prospects as an alternative to AZT, or zidovudine, the only drug known to slow down the progression of Aids and prolong victims' lives.

Dr Anthony Pinching, an Aids specialist at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, London, and a leading organizer

of the trial, said yesterday: "We think there is a good chance of a successful outcome of this trial."

"Early tests of the drug look encouraging, but it is misleading to talk about a cure. We are looking for a treatment for this disease, a way of containing it."

Because of intense interest in DDI among Aids patients, the trial is being structured to allow all participants to receive the drug if they want to.

"We recognize that there are

people who want to have the drug before we know very much about its safety or effectiveness," Dr Pinching said. "Our study allows them the option of being chosen to receive either high or low doses of DDI."

The trial has been set up within a comparatively short time, a reflection of the urgency with which potential new Aids drugs are being investigated around the world.

The British patients being recruited are those who are

unable to tolerate the side-effects of AZT, which include bone marrow suppression, anaemia and muscular weakness.

The trial will be conducted in hospitals and clinics throughout Britain, with patients given courses of the drug for up to 18 months. A similar trial will be carried out in France.

The drug was developed in the mid-1970s by the American pharmaceutical company, Bristol-Myers Squibb, as an

anti-cancer compound, but was found to be ineffective. Its antiviral properties were then recognized about five years ago, and Aids-related research on the drug has intensified since then.

Mr Nick Partridge, a spokesman for the Terrence Higgins Trust, a leading Aids charity, said: "This trial is a breakthrough. Until now it has sometimes taken years for new drug treatments to reach this stage."

People with Aids had been

campaigning for much faster access to drugs that might mitigate the effects of the disease, he said.

"This is an experimental treatment which may or may not prove useful in the long term. Meanwhile, we must not forget the importance of safe sexual behaviour for the foreseeable future."

Mr Partridge said: "A

Seal killing protest

A Scottish conservation group has called on the forthcoming North Sea Ministers' Conference to censure Britain for allowing the shooting of seals by salmon farmers and fishing interests.

In a letter to delegates, the Islay and Jura Seal Action Group has urged them to make clear to the UK representative that the British Government can no longer "hide behind platitudes", and to impress upon Britain that the slaughter of seals can no longer be tolerated.

Actors win

The actor Stratford Johns and his wife Nanette, an actress, won libel damages yesterday over claims that they assaulted their children. *The Sun*, *the News of the World* and *News Group Newspapers* withdrew the allegations.

Tube plot

Reginald Lee, aged 49, of Ealing, west London, a member of a gang in Scotland which planned to issue fake London Underground travel cards worth £825,000, was yesterday fined £3,000 by the High Court in Edinburgh.

Nuclear plea

Peace campaigners from Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic are in Scotland to seek assurances that no submarines carrying nuclear reactors or weapons will enter Irish waters except in an emergency.

Letter theft

A museum warden stole letters worth £25,000 from the National Library of Scotland and sold them for £9,000. Edinburgh Sheriff Court deferred sentence on Edward Duffy, of Duxbury Drive, Edinburgh.

Murder denial

Michael Hodgins and Shane O'Brien of Drogheda, Co Louth, Irish Republic, yesterday denied murdering Timothy Kidman, of Twyford, Hampshire, a gamekeeper at Siana Castle estate, Co Meath.

The case, at the Central Criminal Court, Dublin, continues.

Bond winner

Winner of the £250,000 National Savings Premium Bonds monthly prize draw for March is the holder of bond number 1788 354191 (Glasgow).

Legal hope for whooping cough campaign

The 10-year campaign for compensation by parents who believe their children have been brain damaged by whooping cough vaccine was given fresh hope by a High Court ruling yesterday.

Mr Justice Simon Brown quashed a Legal Aid Board decision refusing or withdrawing aid in seven cases involving victims aged between three and 35.

The ruling could affect up to 200 other claimants who were denied aid after Susan Loveday, aged 17, lost her test case costing £1 million plus in 1988, the most expensive backed by legal aid. She failed to convince the High Court that, on the

balance of probabilities, the pertussis vaccine could cause brain damage.

As a result of that ruling legal aid certificates were withdrawn in around 200 cases.

Yesterday, however, a challenge by seven of the litigants succeeded when Mr Justice Brown ruled that the board had misunderstood a joint opinion given by counsel in the Loveday case at the board's appeal hearings.

Counsel agreed that the Loveday decision did not exclude the possibility of another case succeeding. The judge, however, said he reached his decision

"with hesitation and without enthusiasm". None of the cases should be optimistic about eventual success, he said. The decision means the Legal Aid Board will be able to look at new medical evidence.

The Government had assumed a causative link between the vaccine and brain damage and set up a compensation scheme which allowed for a fixed award of £20,000, the judge said. However expert opinion was deeply divided on the question of causation, creating severe problems for litigants who wanted to sue for larger sums.

Loss of smell increases with every passing puff, the study shows, and addicts may have to stop for as long as they have been smoking to regain their sense of smell fully.

The findings, published yesterday in *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, come from researchers at the University of Pennsylvania's Smell and Taste Centre, who conducted tests on 600 volunteers.

They believe the loss of smell might be linked to a chemical in tobacco smoke that destroys cells in the nose.

Prior back on the hustings to join in nephew's by-election campaign

By Craig Seton

Lord Prior, former Conservative Cabinet minister, returned to the political hustings yesterday to lend his support and experience to his nephew, Mr Charles Prior, who is campaigning to defend the Tory majority in the Mid-Shropshire by-election.

Lord Prior, who is now chairman of GEC, made it clear that his visit to the constituency was a family occasion and said he was convinced his nephew would win a tough contest in difficult circumstances.

Diplomacy and family loyalty reigned during his tour of Sneydlands, a home for the elderly in Rugeley, and he was not tempted to a full discussion of his views on the present Government policies.

He confided to one elderly resident: "I am retired now. I enjoyed my life in politics which was very interesting. I did not always see eye to eye with the lady, but I should not say that here."

Lord Prior's visit coincided with a public opinion poll showing the Conservatives nationally trailing Labour by 18.5 per cent.

Yesterday, the Labour campaign in the constituency switched its attack from the poll tax to the Government's plans for the National Health Service.

The Conservatives are defending a majority of 14,654 in the March 22 poll.

Lord Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland until he left the Government in 1984, conceded it was a bad time for the party but he still believed there would be victory for his nephew. "You could not have a much more difficult position but it will enable the electorate to see a man fighting all the way. Anything can happen in three weeks. He is the sort of person we need in Parliament."

Lord Prior said the poll tax was the most outward and visible form of the Government's difficulties, but he expected it would eventually be modified, perhaps by central government funding of certain items of local spending or



Mr Prior and his wife, Lord Prior, chat with a resident of Sneydlands, a home for the elderly.

changes in the rate support mechanism.

He added: "It is bad luck for anybody fighting a by-election before the modifications take place."

Lord Prior attacked the Labour Party's alternative plans. They would not be popular, he said, and added that Mrs Thatcher was a very good politician who under-

stood the best reasons and I think she will."

Mr Prior, an accountant aged 43, has decided to tackle the community charge issue head on, accepting that it will be a central issue of the campaign, which he wants to fight on the Government's record of achievement.

During yesterday's campaign, he was delighted to find that a number of residents of the old folks' home agreed with his assertion that the average £350 a head rate in Mid-Shropshire had been set unnecessarily high because of the Labour-controlled county council.

In a photo-call outside, one resident wearing a Tory campaign sticker revealed she was the widow of a former Labour councillor in the area. She said: "There is not a Labour Party any more."

Mrs Heal also challenged

Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Sec-

retary of State for Health, to

visit the constituency and de-

fend his plans for the health

service to doctors, nurses and

patients "who so far have had

no say".

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stated what people felt. He said: "If she does not understand now what the parliamentary party is thinking she never will." I think you will find she wants to win the election and wants to set things right for

1990/15/20

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THE POLL TAX DEBATE

Poll tax clash of highest and lowest side by side

By Ray Clancy

The poll tax debate was pulled sharply into focus yesterday when Wandsworth in south London, Mrs Margaret Thatcher's favourite local authority, announced England's lowest charge while councillors in neighbouring Lambeth prepared to set the highest.

Conservative councillors in Wandsworth beamed with delight, obviously proud of setting a poll tax of £48, which is £23 below the government estimate of £71 and £48 below the next lowest rate set by Westminster.

But they were immediately criticized by Miss Fiona MacTaggart, the leader of the Labour opposition group on the council, and Miss Joan Twelves, the leader of Labour-controlled Lambeth council, which is struggling to set its poll tax at under £700.

"The Tories in Wandsworth are mortgaging the future. This is a phoney poll tax that they are using as an election bribe which has been made

possible by favourable grants from the Government. Next year they are facing the choice of doubling the poll tax or halving services," Miss MacTaggart said. She said the Tories had a secret plan to bridge the future spending gap through huge cuts in services which will not be disclosed until after the May elections.

Sir Paul Beresford, leader of Wandsworth, dismissed the claims. "If there are any secret plans I certainly have not seen them. We have produced a poll tax of £48 through careful and efficient savings and we hope to continue doing that in the future. Next year the poll tax might be even lower."

Lambeth councillors are meeting in meetings for the next few days trying to set the poll tax. Miss Twelves said the borough needed to spend £300 million just to keep services at the same level but the Government standard spending assessment for Lambeth is £240 million. "Wandsworth is

there can be little doubt that Lambeth is heading for a collision course with the Government and must be a prime

target for capping. Miss Twelves said that would have a disastrous effect on the borough perhaps lead to bankruptcy and would mean cuts in services of £60 million.

If Lambeth sets its charge close to £700 its poll tax payers entitled to the maximum rebate of 80 per cent will be sent bills of about £148, the same as the full tax in next-door Wandsworth.

The contrast can be seen at its plainest in Hazelbourne Road, where residents on one side will pay £148 to Wandsworth council and on the other side they will pay up to £700 to Lambeth council.

It is in this residential road just off Clapham Common in south-west London that the politicians have the most difficulty explaining the anomalies of the poll tax system.

A family of three adults living on the Wandsworth side faces a poll tax bill of £444 but for the same family on the Lambeth side it could be £2,100.

Worry for employers with live-in staff

By Tim Jones, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Thousands of people, from Army generals to vicars, are to be protected from the full effects of the poll tax, and employers claim that this will increase wage demands, further undermining the Government's anti-inflation strategy.

Others will be worse off, including, according to their federation, policemen living in section houses and married quarters whose rates have been paid by the constabularies.

Introduction of the tax in England and Wales will create financial difficulties for a range of employers providing "live-in" accommodation, including the Ministry of Defence, the Church of England, hoteliers, and public schools.

An analysis by Incomes Data Services says current estimates suggest that the tax will add between 0.5 per cent and 1 per cent to the retail price index in April.

The Church of England will be particularly hit, with Church Commis-

sioners having to find another £8 million to meet the poll tax charges for 11,000 clergy living in parsonages.

The commissioners said that partly because of the added burden, they had suspended a £33 million project to improve poor-standard houses, although the Church is getting an extra £3 million from the Government for upkeep of churches and relief on office taxation.

Previously, because of charitable status, rates on parsonages were very low.

A £1,400 pay increase to clergy from this April includes £600 to enable them to pay the tax for themselves and their wives.

The tax could also add tens of thousands of pounds to Britain's defence bill following a decision that any of the 150,000 servicemen living in barracks or married quarters will not have to pay more than £52 a year above the average for all service accommodation. They will

be reimbursed any sum above that figure, yet to be worked out.

Later this month, the union leaders of more than 30,000 farm workers in "tied" houses will demand a big pay increase for them to counteract the tax's effects.

According to the Independent Schools Information Service, teachers at boarding schools and other live-in staff will be taxed twice, because many occupy their own homes during holidays.

ISIS said: "Our representations to the Government have met only with the response that local authorities have discretionary powers. We believe it is iniquitous for these staff who have to live in to be expected to pay the tax twice."

Incomes Data Services says that some hoteliers expect to pay the tax for "live-in" staff, and to extend an appropriate increase to other staff, adding to costs. There is concern that many, usually mobile, staff will not register.



Immigrants face huge payments in cotton mill town

By Ronald Faix

The community charge will hit Blackburn hard. The Lancashire mill town is one of the districts heading the list of those whose residents' domestic payments will rise most steeply under the new tax.

Final figures have yet to be announced by Lancashire County Council but Mr James Kennedy, director of finance for Blackburn, expects that every adult will face a demand for £365, an increase of more than 80 per cent on the previous rates burden if divided between all adults.

Labour-controlled Blackburn Borough Council says that the rises imposed by the community charge will be devastating and a two-fold calamity.

It says that they will squeeze resources to the town, making even harder the task of replacing the inadequate Victorian houses that were the reason for Blackburn's low level of rates, and that they will put an impossible burden on Asian families occupying them.

In Balacava Street and Inkerman Street, the impact of the new system is only now being understood. The steep, stone terraces built by the cotton mill owners for their workers were cheap homes for waves of immigrants who came to work in the cotton industry and who now represent 16 per cent of the population. The industry died but the immigrants remained.

"In addition, there is the cost of running the community charge itself, which everyone agrees is very expensive," he said.

Mr Peter Greenwood, leader of the council, said the net charge of £365 took into account all that the town was likely to receive from grants and the contribution from the so-called safety net.

"The poll tax and the old rating system are not comparable. The Government support to Blackburn will be cut substantially," he said.

Thatcher will face hardest task on figures

By David Walker

According to the list of community charge payments due in the constituencies of Cabinet ministers, it is the Prime Minister who will have the hardest task explaining the difference between what the Government predicted councils needed to levy in tax and what they are proposing to raise.

The local authority for Mrs Thatcher's constituency of Finchley Central, the London Borough of Barnet, is renowned as one of the most parsimonious of the Conservative-controlled outer boroughs. However its charge of £390 per adult is 54 per cent above the figure given the borough by the Department of the Environment.

Barnet's Conservatives blame the requirement on the outer boroughs to contribute to the safety net arrangements for other local authorities for most of the difference. They can also point out that they are planning to spend nearly 2 per cent per head less than Whitehall recommends as the minimum for schools, social services and street cleaning.

Some of Mrs Thatcher's colleagues ought to have an easier time explaining their local councillors' levies. If Mr Douglas Hurd, Foreign Secretary, had not been confronted with the resignation of the party whip by Conservative councillors on West Oxfordshire District he might have been able to blame a 63 per cent difference between poll tax and government recommendation on Oxfordshire County Council, where no party has overall control.

Oxfordshire County Council is planning to spend 15 per cent more per head than the Department of the Environment says it needs to provide on schools and social services.

However, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the deputy Prime Minister, faces a problem of prime ministerial proportions.

As MP for the solidly Conservative district of Tandridge in solidly Conservative Surrey, Sir Geoffrey has to explain a 54 per cent difference between council and government-approved figures.

Other ministers can put Labour firmly in their sights.

Mr David Waddington, Home Secretary, represents Ribble Valley, which is a Conservative district. Lancashire, the county council, accounts for the bulk of spending and it is Labour-controlled. On the Government's calculations, it is proposing to spend over 11 percent more per head than it needs to.

WHAT CABINET WILL PAY

	Poll tax £	Govt £	Diff %
Thatcher	390	254	54
Howe	390	254	54
Hurd	412	283	45
Major	355	249	45
Waddington	319	246	30
King	323	254	27
Ridley	364	268	36
Baker	395	341	16
Clarke	384	281	40
MacGregor	312	247	26
Parkinson	413	371	11
Wakeham	338	283	20
Newton	343	266	27
Patten	335	254	32
Brooks	195	259	-25
Summer	389	287	33
Mount	373	258	48
Howard	247	223	9
Rifkind	437	321	11

Last year's figure. Government figure. Diff from previous year.

Rare jug found by TV show is star of ceramics auction

SOTHEBY'S

By John Shaw

corded some time ago and the couple were too overcome to think about selling their new treasure at the time. But now they have decided to put it into



Every collector's dream came true for a couple who opened with other hopefuls to have their family treasures examined by 'Roadshow' experts visiting The Derwent Centre, Northampton.

The owl, a rare Staffordshire Slipware jug and cover dating from the early 18th century, had stood by the fireplace and sometimes doubled as a flower pot.

The body of the bird was modelled in red clay and decorated with a dip of marbled cream and shades of brown. The head is detachable and is a drinking cup. The eyes are edged with white dots.

Five examples of these owl jugs survive. It is thought that the design originated in Germany and was the inspiration of potters such as the family of Thomas Toft at the end of the 17th century.

The programme was re-

aired some time ago and it will be the star piece in a ceramics sale at Phillips in London next week with an estimate of £20,000 to £25,000.

Archibald Thorburn (1860-1935) stole the show at Christie's sale of bird drawings, watercolours and pictures, which made £492,888 (10 per cent unsold). Work by the artist, who specialized in finely detailed studies, particularly of game birds, took the top ten lots.

"The close of the season", showing grouse on a moor and signed and dated 1918, equalled the artist's record at £41,800 (estimate £20,000 to £30,000), and a pencil and watercolour drawing of wren, signed and dated 1895, made £20,900 (£10,000 to £15,000). "Pheasant", signed and dated 1922, fetched £18,700 (£10,000 to £15,000).

Sotheby's had a good mid-range English furniture sale totalling £402,238 (15.9 per cent unsold). The top lot, a George II walnut tulipwood, circa 1730, went to a private buyer for £10,780 (£4,000 to £6,000). A George III white-and-gilt shield-back armchair made £9,900 (£4,000 to £6,000).

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Promised Land refugees caught in political crossfire

Material has been removed from the following dispatch by the Israeli censor under new rules announced yesterday covering the immigration of Soviet Jews.

From Richard Owen
Gilo, Israel

"This is occupied land," Professor Rafael Goldman's mouth dropped open. "I had no idea." He looked across from the modern Jewish settlement, built in blocks of golden Jerusalem stone, to the bare ridge opposite, once a Jordanian artillery position in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. In between, screened by blossoming almond trees, lies the Arab village of Beit Safafa, whose inhabitants have become increasingly militant during the *intifada*, now in its third year.

"It looks peaceful to me," Professor Goldman said. "The people are friendly. But then I've only been here two weeks. You must forgive me; until I arrived I didn't even know what the occupied territories were. I hadn't even heard about the Jewish Settlers Movement."

As US-Israeli tensions rise over the immigration issue, Western diplomats are increasingly concerned at what they see as the "misleading impression" being given by the Israeli authorities. According to official figures, less than 1 per cent

of the great exodus of Soviet Jews which began arriving here at the beginning of the year has chosen to live in the occupied territories. Most go to Tel Aviv or Haifa in Israel proper. Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, has angrily accused "the enemies of Israel" of using the issue of occupied land to try to undermine immigration to Israel as such, a move he sees as a clear echo of attempts to prevent Jewish immigration in British-mandate Palestine.

But immigration officials acknowledge that on average 10 per cent of the new arrivals from the Soviet Union are settling in Jerusalem. Of these, most live in satellite Jewish suburbs such as Gilo, built "across the green line", in territory which has been annexed by Israel as part of Jerusalem — and is therefore not on the West Bank — but which is none the less regarded by most of the world as "occupied" under international law. On maps issued by the US State Department it is marked as "status to be determined". Diplomats fear that the gravitation of Soviet Jews towards these disputed suburbs will complicate the

peace process, with Jerusalem — by common consent the last problem which should be raised in negotiations — becoming an obstacle from the outset.

Yesterday tension between the United States and Israel over the peace process was heightened when Mr James Baker, the US Secretary of State, warned Israel that American patience had run out because "we've done pretty much all we can do". There are growing fears that American aid to Israel, now \$3 billion (£1.8 billion) a year, may be cut. Mr Shamir and the Likud Party have until Wednesday next week to accept a demand from their Labour coalition partners that Israel should agree to American proposals for peace talks with a Palestinian delegation which would include both Palestinian deportees and Arabs from East Jerusalem. Likud right-wing rebels refuse to have anything to do with any proposal which involves the status of Jerusalem, even indirectly.

Addressing the House appropriations committee on foreign operations, Mr Baker said bluntly that a US Government guarantee of \$400 million in loans to Israel to help absorb new immigrants would only be paid if Israel gave Washington firm assurances that the money would not be used "to create new

settlements or expand old settlements" over the green line. Mr Shamir, in a rare show of public anger with the United States, yesterday attacked this "linkage" as "totally unnecessary". The Israeli press said Mr Baker's tough remarks were making it even more difficult for Mr Shamir to persuade the Likud rebels to accept the peace talks terms when the inner Cabinet meets tomorrow, because they would accuse the Israeli leader of bowing to American pressure.

Some settlers' leaders argue that Israel should "proudly assert" its claim to land not only in the West Bank but also in Jerusalem, instead of "disguising the issue". At Efrat, on the West Bank just beyond Bethlehem, Jewish settlers have bought three square kilometres of rocky, olive tree-covered hillside to expand their settlement from 450 families to 5,000, in the hope of settling Russian immigrants. The Efrat settlers say they are on good terms with their Arab farming neighbours. Other settlements also within commuting distance of Jerusalem, such as Maale Adumim, which towers on the hills over the approach from Jerusalem to the Dead Sea, are beginning to act as dormitory towns and are building housing for Soviet immigrants. Some diplomats see

this as more of an issue than Soviet settlement at Ariel, near Nablus, where several dozen Russian families have moved in, causing the PLO to describe Soviet immigration as "an act of war".

In Jerusalem's suburbs, new immigrants are given £210 a month to meet the cost of renting a two-bedroomed flat during their first year. This makes housing attractively inexpensive not only in Gilo but also in the four other Jewish satellite settlements across the green line: Ramot, East Talpiot, French Hill and New Yaakov.

Mr Teddy Kollek, the Mayor of Jerusalem, who has tried since 1967 to maintain tolerance in a united city under Israeli rule, said suburbs beyond the green line had all consisted of government land under Jordanian rule, much of it being previously unusable rocky terrain. No land had been bought from Arabs, he said.

Mr Kollek said that for Israel to settle Soviet Jews in the West Bank was "neither relevant nor practical if the territories are to be relinquished", but added that a "considerable number" of immigrants should be settled in Jerusalem "to strengthen it as the capital of Israel". Compared to the "tremendous financial benefits" offered to immigrants

settling in the West Bank, immigrants who lived in Jerusalem suburbs were given no greater inducements than those who chose to live in Tel Aviv, he said. The Jewish suburbs were built on land considered "suited for grazing" under previous regimes and "every tree was planted by us".

For Professor Goldman, a 53-year-old biochemist, Israel is above all a welcome refuge from anti-Semitism and lack of professional opportunity in the Soviet Union. He and others have come to Israel partly because the liberal policies of President Gorbachov have opened the door, and partly because the United States has imposed strict limits on immigration. "I just wanted to get out of Russia, and realized that it really was possible," he says. Professor Goldman's main preoccupation is to find work for himself and his 25-year-old son, Igor.

Others at Gilo such as Mr Victor Savitsky, who arrived at the end of December, say they are grateful to Israel but, given the choice, would prefer to take their families to the United States. "To be honest, I chose Jerusalem for the climate," he said. "They say it is dangerous, but... there is more crime on the average Moscow street."

Leading article, page 11

UK ready to use tougher line to deter boat people

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Editor

The British Government disclosed yesterday that it is prepared to take far more drastic measures than was previously thought if a huge new influx of Vietnamese boat people arrives in Hong Kong.

A high-placed government source said the international community had been "put on notice" of its intentions, while another Whitehall source said Britain was prepared to "push the panic button" if forced to do so.

The annual "sailing season", when weather conditions favour the boats, is due to start now. The Government hopes that deterrent measures already taken will greatly reduce the numbers leaving Vietnam, but has prepared contingency measures.

It would immediately call an emergency meeting of the 29-nation International Conference on Indo-China. Refugees to approve the setting up of a large-scale rapid screening system in Hong Kong.

Those found not to be genuine refugees would be sent back, whether Vietnam consented or not. If hundreds arrived daily, as in the past, hundreds could be sent back daily, possibly in ships or fleets of aircraft and buses. Instead of being held for months or years, as at present, they would be turned around in days.

Contrary to previous indications, the Government believes that the US Government would reluctantly acquiesce to such measures if there was a clear emergency. Whitehall and Hong Kong sources said that all 29 nations, including the US, agreed in principle to this procedure at a meeting of the Steering Committee in Geneva in January.

The meeting ended in a 27-2 deadlock over the timing of mandatory repatriation flights to Vietnam, with only Washington and Hanoi opposing a consensus. But the sources said this was a separate matter and did not affect the agreement on an emergency procedure.

The Government believes

Vietnam would find it difficult to turn away its own people if faced with an agreement carrying international approval. But if it did, Britain would consider the still more drastic step of abolishing the policy of "first asylum", under which boat people have a right to land in Hong Kong. The policy was agreed by the same international body in 1979, but is unpopular in Hong Kong.

This would be a last resort and might lead to condemnation from the United States and some European nations. No indication has been given as to how it would be enforced, but it would inevitably mean turning boats away, possibly using naval launches to force them out to sea.

The Government hopes that none of this will be necessary. Official sources emphasize that the numbers arriving so far this year have been much lower than last year. They believe the mandatory repatriation flight last November, when 51 people were sent back against their will, has discouraged many people in what was North Vietnam, though it has had less effect in the south. It also says that Hanoi has tried to spread the word that Hong Kong is no longer a safe bet.

But its optimism is open to question, because the picture will not be clear until late March or early April. The urgency with which it has been pressing Hanoi to agree to more mandatory flights implies strong concern. Britain sees mandatory flights as far better deterrent than voluntary ones.

The timing of Britain's tougher line may be linked to a visit by Sir David Wilson, Governor of Hong Kong, due

to arrive on Thursday for talks with Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary. There is resentment in the colony against the boat people.

One of Sir David's aims will be to secure a big British contribution to the cost, estimated at £90 million this year, of running the detention centres.

The Government believes

Ethiopian planes hit food stocks

By Daniel Treisman

Ethiopian government planes dropped napalm on civilians and food stocks last month after the northern port of Massawa fell to rebel forces, according to an aid worker who recently returned from the country.

The claim was made after Ethiopia appealed on Thursday for donations to airlift food to the drought-stricken province of Eritrea amid fears that the escalating civil war in the north could mean starvation for up to four million people.

Aid workers and officials are already saying that failure to get aid to the highlands of Eritrea and Tigre could lead to a repeat of the famine of 1984-1985 in which up to one million Ethiopians died.

Miss Susan Watkins, an official of Oxfam Canada who visited Massawa between February 18 and 20, said that of 65 civilian casualties in a hospital in the port 25 were suffering from napalm burns. Others, including children, said they had been shot by government soldiers as they tried to escape.

The Government dropped napalm and destroyed at least two warehouses that I saw and set three stockpiles of grain on fire," Miss Watkins said. "It was clear that food aid was a target in the bombardment."

MiG fighter-bombers also dropped napalm on sparsely wooded areas 12 miles outside the port where civilians were sheltering for days after the town was captured, according to survivors interviewed by Miss Watkins.

Up to 50,000 tons of food was believed to be in Massawa before it fell to the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) on February 10, cutting off an enclave of government-controlled territory around Keren and Asmara from supply by sea.

The Ethiopian Government had agreed in January to a pilot scheme for church relief agencies to send food into northern Tigre by road from Massawa. This was stopped after the EPLF attack.

Relief agencies believe about 1.9 million people in Eritrea and 2.2 million in Tigre face famine in the coming months.

The EPLF is now believed to hold most of Eritrea, while the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, which includes the Tigre People's Liberation Front and the smaller Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement, controls Tigre and large parts of Gondar and Wollo provinces.

One of Sir David's aims will be to secure a big British contribution to the cost, estimated at £90 million this year, of running the detention centres.

The Government believes



Church militant: A Coptic priest, who is fighting in the Tigre rebel ranks with cross and rifle.



In Nicaragua guns still count more than ballot boxes

Sandinistas close ranks against change

From Charles Bremner, Managua

Dozens of young soldiers were reported yesterday to have deserted from the Nicaraguan Army as the defeated Sandinista Government negotiated with advisers of Señora Violeta Chamorro, the President-elect, on the fate of the left-wing forces.

The teenage conscripts were said to have fled their units in the mountains where the Sandinista Popular Army (EPS) is still fighting the Contra rebels. The EPS denied the desertions, but the young men's relatives said they felt no further obligation since Señora Chamorro had promised to end conscription after taking office on April 25.

The reluctance of the United States' proxy army to lay down their arms after the election victory of the US-backed UNO coalition has complicated the delicate task of persuading the Sandinistas to relinquish control of the army. The issue of who controls the 100,000-strong forces the region's biggest, is dominating the transition talks between General Hum-

berto Ortega, the brother of President Ortega, and Señora Chamorro's team.

For many officers taking orders from allies of the insurgents is an unthinkable affront. Deeply despondent, they are joining a groundswell of defiance among Sandinista loyalists towards the results of last Sunday's election.

"Tell Daniel he is not alone. We are awaiting his call to take up arms in our defence," Señora Carmen Vallejo, an office worker from León, speaks for many Nicaraguans who believe the AK-47 Kalashnikov rifle remains their best recourse for avenging the "betrayal" of their revolution in last Sunday's election.

The Sandinista front remains by far the most powerful force in the country and enjoys the loyalty of thousands of highly motivated senior officers in the armed forces, police, public service and media.

Many believe "the people" were coerced through years of US economic and military assault into relinquishing their sovereignty last Sunday.

Many have no time for "bourgeois democracy", believing their party retains a historic mandate, Bolshevik-style, to transform the nation into a workers' state.

Although Sandinista leaders are respecting their supporters to respect the election result, the spectre of armed insurrection is one of many factors that will force the new government to concede a share of power. As *Nuevo Diario*, a pro-Sandinista newspaper, said: "This means the Sandinistas will remain a power the United States must reckon with."

President Ortega has laid down an ambiguous strategy that raises doubts about his intentions of becoming a loyal opposition. He has promised to resist any dismantling of his revolutionary reforms and to preserve Sandinista control of the armed forces, all within the framework of the constitution. "We will be a constructive but belligerent opposition," he said.

Diplomats believe Señor Ortega will hand over executive and government power

but use the Sandinistas' strength to disrupt UNO's plans, just short of prompting international condemnation.

The new government recognizes that it must tread delicately, Señor Arturo Cruz, a UNO adviser who served as a minister in the early Sandinista government and then became a political leader of the Contra rebel army, said Señora Chamorro should keep the Sandinistas in a key position in the armed forces and in certain ministries — particularly in agrarian reform.

Many in the new administration believe that, if they can handle things delicately, the loyalty of the Sandinistas will gradually erode.

Another view holds that the election defeat could prove the Sandinistas' salvation. It allows them to shed the compromises of power and return to their revolutionary ideals. Señor Cruz said he believed President Ortega's moral standing had "skyrocketed" with his graceful acceptance of defeat this week.

Mr Walter Sisulu and Mr Govan Mbeki, ANC veterans who were freed from life imprisonment in South Africa last year in advance of Mr

ANC returns Mandela to the anti-apartheid helm

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Mr Nelson Mandela was elected deputy president of the African National Congress in Lusaka yesterday, paving the way for him to take over as president from Mr Oliver Tambo, who is in a Stockholm nursing home after suffering a crippling stroke late last year.

The decision was announced after a two-day meeting of the ANC National Executive Committee in the Zambian capital, making Mr Mandela effectively the ANC's leader.

At the same time the executive announced that it was seeking immediate talks with the South African Government about the release of all political prisoners.

It said it welcomed the "positive response" by President de Klerk so far but declared: "It is also of vital importance that the Pretoria regime moves without delay to remove all other obstacles standing in the way of negotiations."

Mr Walter Sisulu and Mr Govan Mbeki, ANC veterans who were freed from life imprisonment in South Africa last year in advance of Mr

whom they had not seen for a quarter of a century.

The ANC's first couple emerged into the arrivals hall after their flight from Lusaka with clenched fists held high and blowing kisses to the cheering crowd. There was a heavy police presence at the airport, but no reported incidents.

"This is a great and joyous occasion. We must see that the breakthrough in South Africa is widened and our people take over power in a peaceful and orderly manner," Miss Alexander said. She was banned from union activities by the Government in 1953.

Mr Simon was a lecturer at the University of Cape Town before being banned in 1965 from writing for publication or attending public meetings. The couple left the country soon afterwards.

During his years in exile Mr Simon has been a key figure in formulating the ANC's constitutional guidelines for a post-apartheid South Africa.

The couple have been offered honorary fellowships at the University of Cape Town's Centre for African Studies.

Pledge of exchange rate parity boosts East German mark

From Ian Murray, East Berlin

The strength of the once despised East German mark grows daily with the belief that it will by the summer be exchanged at parity with the Deutsche mark of its powerful West German neighbour.

The illicit money-changers in the Alexanderplatz here or round the Zoo railway station in West Berlin are now eager to buy up the tiny East German notes which were for so long regarded as little more than Monopoly money.

In recent days the black-market exchange rate for the Ostmark has soared. When the Berlin Wall opened last November the money was changing hands at a rate of 20 Ostmarks to DM 1. Today the going rate is one to five, with some dealers offering no more than four Ostmarks.

The reason is that Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, who surprised the West German banking world by suddenly announcing his plan for currency union between the two Germanies last month, now says he is "sympathetic" to the idea of a one-for-one exchange rate and wants it to happen as soon as possible after the election.

Herr Kohl promised a cheering crowd of 200,000 in Karl-Marx-Stadt on Thursday evening that a currency exchange rate would be brought in which would take social considerations into account.

Bild, which has been very accurate in its scoops on East Germany in recent months, yesterday announced that the parity exchange rate would begin on July 1.

What has won the Chancellor's sympathy is the plight of small savers, who between them have amassed a total of 177 billion Ostmarks. Although the average monthly pay here is only 850 Ostmarks, high subsidies on basics have left people with little on which to spend, so they have kept their cash in banks.

Now the Chancellor and his Cabinet accept that it would be very unfair to penalize these millions of small savers by devaluing their life savings.

Herr Otto Pöhl, the president of the Bundesbank, however, remains very unhappy

about it. He was dragged by the Chancellor into agreeing to work for currency union much against his will and now feels he is being forced to finance an exchange rate in a way which will undermine the strength of the D-mark and risk starting an inflationary spiral.

"A mark of the German Democratic Republic is not worth a D-mark and the idea that we exchange everything on a one-for-one basis is somewhat naive," he told *The New York Times* this week.

"But it is psychologically and politically very powerful be-

Kohl reassures leading US rabbi

New York The West German Chancellor, Herr Helmut Kohl, has written to a leading American rabbi to allay Jewish fears about German reunification (James Bone writes).

In a letter to Rabbi Marvin Hier, Dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre for Holocaust studies in Los Angeles, Herr Kohl said that

East Germans were fed up with communism and "immune to any new totalitarian temptations". He also stressed that West Germans had left the Nazi era behind.

cause people in the GDR are afraid of losing their savings...

"We just have to be clear about one thing. The better it is for the savers, the worse it will be for creditors – and they have those in the GDR, too."

If *Bild* is again correct, the savers will initially be allowed to change only a limited amount at parity. A figure of DM 1,000-2,000 has been suggested. The remainder of their money would have to remain in Ostmarks, earning D-mark interest, being unfrozen when it makes sense to do so.

The next round in the talks on currency union takes place in Bonn on Monday.

• Bewildering choice East German voters, who could only pick communists or their allies when they went to the polls last May, will be faced with a bewildering choice for the election to be held tomorrow. New parties are

frankly, we do not think a man who threatened to bomb Moscow can be described as a liberal," a spokesman for one of the parties said.

New Forum, the opposition organization so prominent early in East Germany's peaceful revolution, has no real political experience and has formed a friendly alliance with like-minded parties campaigning as *Bürger für Bürger* (Citizen for Citizen).

The ecologists and the women's rights movement have got together to form a "green-lila" federation, while the United Left has split into a complex of splinter parties.

One universally popular group is the "German Beer Drinkers' Union", campaigning for beer to be kept at present East German levels.

Down in Plauen they are busy with the scissors again for the second time since the war. On a makeshift market stall in the centre of the town which nestles, neglected and self-absorbed, in the deep south of East Germany, just a few miles from the Bavarian border in one direction and the Czech border in the other, Herr Peter Brinken is selling West German flags to a mainly young clientele.

His wife is occupied at home picking out the stitches of the hammer and compass circle from the East German flag to render it West German.

He regulates the small crowd with a familiar tale. "My grandparents did the same thing in 1945 – cut the swastika circle away and, hey presto, the red flag."

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Election apathy as mood of disillusion grips Soviet voters

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

The Soviet election campaign reaches its climax tomorrow, with polling in the Russian Federation, the Ukraine and Belarus, amounting to nearly two-thirds of the Soviet population.

Official exhortations to vote — which have grown more exhorting by the day — have met with markedly less enthusiasm, however, than in last April's nationwide elections to the Congress of People's Deputies. "Fellow citizens," says one banner across Gorky Street, "the watchword of Moscow is realism, conviction and action."

Even an attempt to instill festivity by opening markets, hanging coloured flags and fusing the election with the public holiday for International Women's Day has had little effect.

Officials in Moscow reckon they will be fortunate if more than 60 per cent vote. This figure might not displease a Western democracy, but in the Soviet Union — where observers used to regard a turnout of less than 98 per cent as tantamount to a defeat — it is a disappointment to those with a stake in President Gorbachev's democratization.

The change in atmosphere is blamed on voters' disillusionment with the novelty.

In Moscow there had also been the additional Boris Yeltsin element, when crowds flocked to the maverick politician. This time Mr Yeltsin is standing in his home city of

Sverdlovsk in the Urals and charismatic candidates are few and far between.

Disillusion is setting in. Why vote, people ask, when shops are empty? Voting last spring did not make them fuller; it won't this year either.

In a few parts of the Russian Federation, and in both the Ukraine and Belarus, the vote is made more interesting and less predictable by the popular fronts. The performance of Ruk, the Ukrainian Nationalist Group, will be closely watched to see how serious a challenge it will pose in coming months.

In the Russian Federation generally, the political spectrum is narrower and more conservative. An opinion poll in Moscow and Kirov found that 41 per cent considered better living standards a priority, while only 3 per cent wanted a greater say in decision-making and 30 per cent considered openness and free speech important.

So far as the candidates are concerned, a few espouse Russian nationalist views, some advocate economic autonomy (by which they mean an end to subsidies for others, especially Asian, republics) and all desire a more prosperous and influential Russia.

They differ on approving private property and putting law and order above democratization, but they all want reform, greater prosperity, lower inflation and better provision of food and con-

sumer goods — without himing how these might be achieved.

A report by the official Tass news agency yesterday said "opposition groups" were likely to win at least one third of the seats for the Moscow city council, but the definition of opposition is unclear.

Almost all the candidates are Communists, some adhere to the radical, Yeltsin wing of the party, others object to what they call Mr Yeltsin's demagogic but would not call themselves adherents of Mr Yeltsin's ideological opponent, Mr Yegor Ligachev.

Informal groups have multiplied in the past two years, most more akin to discussion circles than to incipient political parties. They range from the extreme right — the various branches and offshoots of the shadowy Pamyat organization and monarchists — to the extreme left Radical Party and anarcho-syndicalists. In the middle are Christian democrats, liberal democrats, social democrats and a host of tiny informal associations.

They meet in private flats and offices around tea and biscuits — and try to set the world to rights, without any hope of obtaining the power to do it.

Groups with less centrist political aspirations have either found it impossible to participate in tomorrow's elections or have decided to boycott them.

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Quest for truth on Katyn



Families of some of the 15,000 Polish officers killed in 1940 in Katyn protest outside the Soviet Embassy in Warsaw yesterday to press Moscow to reveal the truth. Soviet police are believed to have been responsible for the massacre, blamed by Moscow on the Nazis.

Aoun defies the Church

Beirut rocked by battle

From A Correspondent, Beirut

General Michel Aoun yesterday defied an excommunication threat and launched a second attack on militia posts of his Christian rival, Mr Samir Geagea. Hand-to-hand fighting was reported on the streets of east Beirut.

At dawn the general's Lebanese Army troops resumed their assault on militia positions. They showered residential areas in the Christian sector with hundreds of shells, in total disregard of a threat by Patriarch Nasrallah Sfeir, head of the Maronite Church in Lebanon, to excommunicate the warring foes. General Aoun and Mr Geagea are both Maronite Christians.

"We warn whoever orders the firing and whoever carries it out that they would be excommunicated," said Patriarch Sfeir. "They will be expelled from the Church and prevented burial according to church traditions."

Police reported that army regulars under General Aoun launched a second offensive against hardline Christian Lebanese Forces militiamen at dawn, following Thursday's attack on the militia headquarters in Karantina on Beirut's waterfront. Yesterday's assault, again supported by tanks and artillery, came from two axes, in Nabaa and Sin el-Fil in central Beirut.

Christian militia sources said four army battalions and several companies of commandos, supported by tanks and heavy artillery fire, were involved in the battle.

A police spokesman said General Aoun's US-made M48 tanks, which advanced to the edges of Nabaa on Thursday, were "trying to shoot their way" across the densely populated district.

"They are applying scorched-earth combat tactics. The whole district is on fire," he said.

Mr Geagea's experienced street fighters, entrenched in the narrow alleys of Nabaa and Sin el-Fil, were confronting the tanks with armoured-piercing rocket-propelled grenades and 106mm recoilless cannons, he said.

The Lebanese Red Cross said it had pulled out 12 bodies from the battlefield and evacuated 50 wounded. It said five other corpses were still on the streets in Nabaa and Sin el-Fil. On Thursday at least 75 people were killed and 200 wounded.

More than 800 people have been killed and 3,000 wounded in the bitter power struggle between General Aoun and Mr Geagea over supremacy in the Christian enclave in central Beirut.

Residents in east Beirut spent Thursday night in underground shelters and woke yesterday morning to the sound of artillery shells and the smell of gunpowder and burning rubber from at least 50 fires that blazed in the city throughout the night.

Military sources said Thursday's thrust had been a "warning" to evacuate Beirut "before the final and sweeping attack to drive the militia out of the capital starts".

They added that General Aoun's troops, bent on disarming the militia, wanted to reconquer Lebanon. Forces defences before they moved to seize their headquarters, inflicting the least casualties possible.

Witnesses said the advances by the Army occurred without fighting and that General Aoun's forces had come within shooting distance of the main junction leading to

safe to go out at night in many areas of this sprawling community, and it has nothing to do with escalating gang shootings.

As the city sleeps, helicopters fly in formation overhead, spraying thousands of gallons of insecticides into the atmosphere in an attempt to wipe out a pest known as the Medfly which feasts on the peaches, grapes and plums California exports. Its proliferation could mean death to the state's principal industry, agriculture.

Scientists disagree on the effects of the insecticide Malathion on people. State officials claim it is safe, though they advise bringing pets indoors and covering the paintwork on cars parked outside when the chemical is scattered at night. But Los Angeles residents — assaulted from all ecological angles — have taken to the streets wearing breathing masks and skeleton costumes, and carrying placards demanding that spraying be stopped.

In response to the pressure, Los Angeles city council voted to go to court seeking an injunction to force the state department of food and agriculture to stop spraying until its safety can be determined. Four neighbouring cities have followed suit.

Paradise lost as pollution assaults California coast

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles

Southern California temperatures were in the high eighties last week, which would normally send residents scurrying to the shore seeking relief from the heat. But the miles of beaches in Los Angeles were virtually deserted. The once-pristine white sands have become an ecological nightmare. There is big trouble in paradise.

First, a British Petroleum tanker leaked nearly 400,000 gallons of crude oil into the ocean off Huntington Beach, to the south of the city. Then, while volunteers and BP employees were labouring round the clock to clean up the sludge, a heavy winter storm caused drains to overflow and sent eight million gallons of raw sewage gushing into the ocean at Santa Monica, one of the most densely populated beach communities here.

To make matters worse, the thriving Los Angeles harbour was also closed for 24 hours on Friday, and there was talk of evacuating thousands of residents when a toxic chemical leak was spotted coming from a freighter.

So the surfers have stayed home with their boards, the swimmers are sticking to pools, and only the occasional volleyball player, roller skater or biker has ventured down to the sea to enjoy the sunlight. It is also no longer

Judge who tried the Ceausescus shoots himself

From Tim Jsdah, Timisoara

The judge who condemned December's Romanian revolution. They are all former Securitate or militia officers.

The defendants include Major-General Emil Macri, the former head of Economic Counter-Intelligence in the Securitate; Colonel Traian Sima, the former head of the Timisoara County Securitate; and Colonel Ion Deheleanu, the former head of the Timisoara Militia.

The defendants are accused of genocide, aiding and abetting genocide, and also of taking 40 bodies from the Timisoara mortuary to be cremated in Bucharest. This was done in order to cover up the extent of the killings.

General Popa shot himself in the heart with a pistol in his office at the ministry and died in hospital two hours later. Mr Popa said the general, who had headed the Bucharest Regional Military Court since 1987, had suffered a severe heart attack yesterday.

"It was nothing to do with the Ceausescu case, it was something personal," the minister added.

Yesterday's proceedings lasted just over an hour and consisted solely of the prosecutor reading the charges. The trial resumes this morning.

• BUDAPEST: The Romanian Securitate is continuing to carry out actions against Hungary and most of its agents remain in place, according to Colonel Lajos Nagy, the head of Hungary's secret service (AFP reports).

In an interview yesterday he said: "Our information proves that almost without exception, the members of the Securitate are still in place. They are not just waiting." Asked if this meant they were still carrying out actions against Hungary, he said: "Yes".

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**TIMES
DIARY**
SIMON BARNES

As this is the column for the sporting polymath, it is time to salute Kate Noakes, artist in residence at Middlesbrough Football Club. Her exhibition of sculpture resulting from this post is on show from today until the end of the month at Middlesbrough Art Gallery. An uncompromising figure in a welder's mask, Noakes has produced a series of works in forged steel "trying to capture the physicality of football - not portraits of players but movement in an abstracted form".

Her spell at Middlesbrough FC was funded by Northern Arts, and backed by other bodies including the club. "I could not have produced the work I did if they hadn't made me feel so much at home," says Noakes. "I was able to set up and work on the pitch without any problems. The players who have seen the work were rather bemused at first, but I think they have liked what they have seen."

Sad news from Julie Krone, one of America's top jockeys - she has won more than \$26 million in prize money - and an old friend of this column. She has not ridden since breaking her arm in a riding accident in November and must now have a bone graft operation. "When I found out I almost went into shock," said Krone, a volatile lady famous for winning a fist fight with a male jockey. She has lost a hot mount for the Kentucky Derby in May but hopes she will be back on the track in June. "The first day I can climb on a horse and leave the paddock again I'll be smiling from ear to ear," she said.

Male drivers always feel they have failed a crucial virility test when they are overtaken by a lorry, but let me reassure them. Next weekend, there will be an assault on the world speed record for a heavy goods vehicle. The driver, Yorkshireman Brian Garnet, a truck-racing driver by profession, says: "We are setting our sights on breaking the 130mph barrier. But it will all depend on conditions on the day." The attempt takes place on Pendine Sands in Wales (and no doubt informally by other drivers on the M25 throughout the preceding week). Garnet will drive a Lucas VAC Leyland Roadtrain called Gertie.

BARRY FANTONI



That reminds me, our Keating has just been attributed to someone else!

America's amazing one-legged schoolboy wrestler goes from strength to strength. Bill Flink has won 28 fights this season, without a single defeat, and is hoping to become champion of Stratford High School in Wisconsin. He aims to go on and win the state title "for my mom and dad". He fights on his knees, and exploits every advantage his unorthodox position can give him. Opponents reach around to grab his leg "and it just isn't there," says his coach, Cal Tackes. Flink lost his leg in a farming accident five years ago, when he was 12. Usually he wears an artificial limb, but he removes it to wrestle. "I want to win bad. I like the feeling," he says.

The most alluring invitation of the week came from Barry Hearn, the snooker and boxing manager, who gave the world the chance to meet a fighter called Chris Eubank, who has some punch-up or other next week. The message said beguilingly: "People call him arrogant, but Chris will give a few minutes of his time to discuss this fight and future plans." I was unfortunately prevented from going by a subsequent engagement.

The obits failed to mention that the late Leslie Ames was responsible for the late England cricket team's last series win over the West Indies in the Caribbean. It happened when he was managing the side captained by Colin Cowdrey in 1967-68. With four matches drawn, England won 1-0, thanks to a generous declaration by Gary Sobers. England were set 215 in two-and-a-quarter hours, and Cowdrey didn't fancy it. According to Ames, Cowdrey was nervous of Willie Rodriguez, the leg-spinner, "but I said we would never have a better opportunity." Cowdrey scored 71 in England's victory. Sobers was burned in effigy in Port of Spain, and Ames savoured the satisfaction of successful generalship.

At school we were always taught that "goodbye" really means "God be with you". Or once did. Now we have abbreviated the sentence and extinguished the sentiment. We have turned what once had meaning into a swift commonplace. The expression passed from full-length to a shorthand version, and finally to a usage which has forgotten even what the shorthand once stood for. It must be one of a score of such words.

Or actions. "Around the maypole frolics Miss Prism/Little knowing its symbolism." In Catalonia my nieces and nephews, get their Christmas presents only after their grandparents have tapped on a log of wood - a perfect 20th-century reminder of some obscure pagan ceremony perhaps? No doubt historians will, likewise, know why Dame Jill Knight (or any other MP) has

The Government is said to be considering plans to "cap" the poll tax. This would be the ultimate absurdity in the tangled tale of local government reform. The purpose of introducing a flat-rate charge for local government services payable by every adult in the country is to make electors take responsibility for the things which local authorities do in their name.

If people want smaller classes in their local schools, or their dustbins emptied three times a week, and are prepared to pay accordingly, then let them vote in a council to do it. If, on the other hand, they are sceptical about the value that local representatives are giving for their money, then they should have the evidence and the incentive to vote them out. Either way, voters live with the consequences of their choice.

If it set a limit to local taxation, the Government would be denying the principle of local accountability. The logical next move would be to abolish local government altogether - something which advocates of central control over education appear to have recognized.

But, say the Government's political managers, the size of the changes which people are being

Rodney Lord, Economics Editor, cites Scotland's experience

Poll tax: just give it time

asked to face is proving deeply unpopular. Imposing a tax on people who did not pay one before was never going to be a vote-winner, and the local authorities are successfully pinning the blame on central government.

Even Conservative councils are having to levy embarrassingly high charges. There is a growing tide of concern on the Tory back benches that unless the Government acts to ameliorate the worst effects, the tax will be a serious handicap at the next election.

In any case, say the sceptics, the poll tax is not a good answer to the problem of local accountability. Every adult living in Coronation Street will now receive a bill (instead of just the heads of households), but this does not necessarily mean they will be any more aware of what the council is spending than they were before. Wives have always been aware of the overall financial burdens on the household.

And, as before, the poorest will have their poll tax paid for them.

If the Government were able to start again, it might not choose to start from here. The attractions of the poll tax were simplicity, universality and visibility, but faced with the political disadvantages, ministers have already decided that purity of principle must be sacrificed to reliefs, safety nets and other devices to protect the citizen from too harsh an exposure to local accountability.

On that calculation the Government might have done better to swallow its rhetoric and opt for a local income tax, as the report of the committee of inquiry headed by Sir Frank Layfield recommended in 1976. But at this stage the Government decide that the poll tax would be the lesser evil.

A revaluation in England and Wales, now long overdue, would be even more painful, since revaluation in Scotland was carried out in three stages after 1973, whereas in England and Wales - where there is no obligation to revalue periodically - the whole burden of

adjustment would be felt at once.

Worried Tories south of the border should look more closely at the Scottish experience. No one would pretend that the poll tax has been popular in Scotland. At the last election, when it was one of the main issues, the Tory vote fell from 28 per cent to 24 per cent; but the principal complaint was that Scotland was being used as a test-bed by an "English" Conservative government - which hardly applies in the case of the poll tax in England and Wales. More important, the Government was then (as now in England and Wales) at its point of maximum vulnerability, with the legislation passed but before the tax was in operation.

Scotland's experience suggests that in a year's time, the atmosphere will be rather different. North of the border, they are just coming to the end of the first year of the tax, which was introduced one year ahead of England and Wales. Despite dire predictions about the difficulties of collecting the tax, 99 per cent of the population have registered, and revenue is running at about 90 per cent of target, which is slightly better than with the rates. While the opposition parties are still trying to make some mileage out of the issue, it is no longer the dominant theme in Scottish politics.

Local taxation rose sharply in Scotland as councils switched from one tax to the other, just as appears to be happening in England and Wales. Local authorities are well versed in making use of the changes which Whitehall forces on them, and the Government is having to revise its estimates of the average poll tax rate with embarrassing frequency. But in Scotland, increases in year two of the tax are proving much lower. One regional council, Grampian, is even reducing its levy.

The real touchstone of success for this fundamental change in local government finance will be whether it achieves what it originally set out to do: increase local accountability. The full-scale trial in Scotland is at too early a stage for any firm conclusions to be reached about that yet, but the regional council elections on May 3 may provide some interesting evidence.

Peter Brimelow

Value amid the junk

New York

We had not read a newspaper for three weeks when we boarded the New York flight at Milan airport in late spring 1986. But I felt a premonition when I picked up a copy of *Newsweek* magazine. "Greed on Wall Street" its cover blared.

I was reading quietly when my wife looked over, saw a picture, and exclaimed: "Oh, there's Dennis! What's he doing there?" She seized the magazine - and went into a classic triple-take, like a comic character in a silent movie. For Dennis was Dennis Levine, one of her colleagues at the Wall Street firm of Drexel Burnham Lambert, then at the very peak (as it turned out) of its farsome power.

She had told me about Levine's extraordinary coolness under the intense pressure of deal-making. It was more remarkable than anyone had realized. Levine had been making quick trips abroad to trade stocks on inside information. He, the authorities and his fellow conspirators had just played out a byzantine climax of detection, pursuit and betrayal.

When Drexel Burnham finally collapsed last month, it was easy to forget that the much-publicized insider trading scandal of 1986, which affected several other Wall Street houses, actually had nothing to do with the rather technical securities law charges for which the firm was subsequently forced to pay a huge fine and to abandon its most famous asset, the financier Michael Milken. In fact, Milken has still not been convicted of anything. And the market in high-yielding "junk bonds" which he invented and allegedly manipulated shows distinct signs of continuing despite his departure.

In Britain, successive governments have shied away from listing gardens as they list buildings, for fear of the burden it would impose on owners whose resources are already stretched. But the need is not for a protective order imposing a duty on owners to maintain gardens, which would meet with understandable strong resistance even if it were accompanied by generous grants and tax reliefs.

The need is for Parliament to oblige planning authorities and government departments to pay special regard to the merits of properties on the English Heritage register when they are considering or drawing up proposals for developments or roads. This would be parallel to the special regard that local authorities are obliged to give to proposals affecting the character of conservation areas (under Section 277 (8) of the 1971 Planning Act).

It would not involve complicated legislation; it would simply bring an existing list within the framework of structure plans and planning applications. Chris Patten, the Environment Secretary, is said to be looking for quick, simple measures to show his green credentials. Protection for parks and gardens should be high on his list.

The author is president of SAVE Britain's Heritage.

which he had moved to his native California, would be listening in on the speakerphone. As a former freelance writer, she began to feel uneasy that a sign on her forehead was flashing the scandalous secret that she had not been out of bed before 10am for several years.

The firm also, at least in its prime, developed an extraordinary *élan*. The sheer power of money to motivate, sometimes underestimated in the salaried professions, is always a source of explosive energy on Wall Street, which lives on fees and commissions. But there was more to Drexel Burnham. Its chief executive, Fred Joseph - in many ways as remarkable a character as Milken - not only seemed to believe the personnel management claptrap he had imbibed at the Harvard Business School but actually made it - or something - work.

Thus it was several days before my wife realized that the great man was unpretentiously conducting the business of the firm from a desk only two or three from hers in the "bulpen" - the huge open office that is a feature of American financial institutions. Even at that time, some fairly hairy beasts roamed Drexel's corridors, but Joseph was somehow able to keep them from eating one another, at least in any generally demoralizing way, for a long time. By Wall Street standards, the firm was positively civilized - if only internally.

Some of Drexel's methods of building morale may not be transferable across the Atlantic. All Drexel retainers found themselves plastered with their employer's livery and slogans. As I write this, I am drinking herb tea from a mug emblazoned "DREXEL BURNHAM - NO GUTS, NO GLORY". At one Christmas party, the firm's chairman, Robert Linton, got up wearing the stocking cap associated in New York with muggers and sang a skit entitled "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Prosecutor" satirizing Rudolph Giuliani, the law-enforcement official who had made Drexel his personal crusade.

None of this, of course, staved off the horrible end. Now this little community is scattering to the winds, wheeling its possessions out of the office on castor chairs for want of trolleys, looking in groups or individually for new employers. At breakfast recently in Delmonico's, the Wall Street restaurant, no fewer than seven Drexel securities analysts could be seen amanuently trying to impress interviewers from seven different brokerage houses over their decaffeinated coffee.

In the 1960s, it was fashionable to worry that America's largest corporations formed an entrenched "technostructure" that could manipulate the economy. In the 1980s, Drexel-financed takeovers proved they were not entrenched. Somehow, no one was grateful.

The author is a senior editor of Forbes magazine.

Oases of delight at risk of desecration



Marcus Binney suggests a simple measure to preserve the parks of country houses from a rising tide of commercial development

increase in the asking price.

The noble shell of the Elizabethan Clegg Hall stands in one of the finest stretches of unspoilt countryside to the east of Manchester. The walls are sound, and it could easily be restored as apartments by a building preservation trust. But now, we are told, Clegg Hall can be saved only if permission is given for a vast leisure park

greatest buildings, the parks of country houses are themselves important works of art. "What were known all over the world for a hundred years as English gardens", Lord Clark wrote,

"were the most pervasive influence that England has ever had on the look of things in Europe."

The parks of country houses are often thought of as the creation of the 18th-century landscape movement, and considered worth preserving only if the names of Capability Brown or Humphry Repton can be attached to them. But many are much older, and historians are showing that ornamental lakes and ponds, "Parks there are in England, more than in all Europe," wrote Peter Heylyn in his *Cosmographie* in 1677.

The beauty of these parks lies in openness and extent, in their great expanses of grassland, uninterrupted by hedges or fences, where deer, cattle or sheep are free to roam at will. In contrast to the intimate domestic scale of much of the English countryside - of small fields, high hedges, narrow footpaths, streams and spinneys entangled in undergrowth - these parks introduce an epic element.

Another recent proposal is for a motorway linking the M6 and the M56, which would cut right through the middle of the fine park of Mere Old Hall in Cheshire, the seat of the Brookes family since the Middle Ages.

And at Reigate in Surrey, a new

bypass proposed by the county council would separate the town from what has long been its park, the grounds of the Priory, sweeping down to a splendid lake.

Quite apart from providing the setting for some of our

greatest buildings, the parks of

country houses are themselves

important works of art.

"What were known all over the

world for a hundred years as

English gardens", Lord Clark

wrote, "were the most pervasive

influence that England has ever

had on the look of things in

Europe."

Historic buildings are pro-

tected by listing, and there is a

whole range of statutory designa-

tions to protect the wider land-

scape; areas of outstanding

natural beauty, sites of special

scientific interest, environ-

mentally sensitive areas, green

belt and national parks. But the

Register of Parks and Gardens

drawn up by English Heritage

(and its equivalent in Scotland)

has no legal force. In France, by

contrast, there are *sites classés* as

well as *monuments classés*, while

the parks of Saint-Cloud, Sceaux, Rambouillet and Compiègne are protected in their own

right.

In Britain, successive govern-

ments have shied away from

listing gardens as they list build-

ings, for fear of the burden it

would impose on owners whose

resources are already stretched.

But the need is not for a

protective order imposing a duty

on owners to maintain gardens,

which would meet with under-

standable strong resistance even

if it were accompanied by gen-

erous grants and tax reliefs.

The need is for Parliament to

oblige planning authorities to

pay special regard to the merits



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM

These are difficult days for Israel. The tensions generated by the *intifada* have now been compounded by the continuing flow of immigrants from the Soviet Union. Yesterday's imposition of censorship on any items of news relating to the subject gives the measure of Israeli concern and anxiety.

There is no question of the newcomers not being welcome. Their right to be there is established by the Law of Return. Soviet Jewry constituted the last great reservoir of immigration, and the opening of the gates has long been a cherished aim of Israeli policy. It was, indeed, until recently a source of grievance in Jerusalem that 90 per cent of those leaving the Soviet Union wanted to settle not in Israel but the United States.

New American restrictions on immigration, however, together with a disturbing growth of anti-Semitism in Eastern Europe, has pushed up the numbers now seeking a new future in Israel to a level which is almost overwhelming. The long-term result should surely benefit Israel. In the short term the high cost of absorption has led to heavy dependence on US aid.

According to long-established principle, newcomers are allowed to settle where they please, and a number of those from Russia have chosen a life in some of Israel's new settlements, including those in the territories occupied since the 1967 war. How many have chosen to do is not known. Officially the Government dismisses it as a fraction, and denied encouraging them to do so. But which areas constitute the "occupied territories" is disputed — particularly on the outskirts of Jerusalem.

Resettlement has been a hotly-debated issue since the Prime Minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, said earlier this year that the growing Soviet exodus required "the land of Israel, a large and strong Israel". Despite his denials, this was interpreted as meaning that he contemplated retaining the occupied territories to accommodate the increasing population. The Palestine Liberation Organization has already responded by declaring that it would regard the

wholesale population of the West Bank and Gaza with new Jewish immigrants as "an act of war", but even on the wildest estimates that has never been in question.

Mrs Thatcher is among those Western leaders who have spoken out against such a policy in Israel. More seriously from Jerusalem's point of view, the American Secretary of State, Mr James Baker, demanded a guarantee that the Israelis would halt all resettlement of immigrants in the territories. His strong statement has reawakened Israeli fears that US aid, now running at \$3 billion a year, would be cut if the Jerusalem Government refused to comply.

The Jerusalem Government's complaint that the United States' impatient intervention had made it much more difficult for the Cabinet to reach agreement on starting peace talks with Palestinians may sound like an attempt to shift the blame. None the less, Mr Shamir is in a difficult position, with his Likud Party split over his peace plan and Labour, junior partners in the Government coalition, threatening to pull out if he does not agree to Mr Baker's own proposals.

The Middle East peace process is immensely complicated. Two vicious terrorist attacks on Israelis in six months have swung opinion there towards the right, making compromise that much more difficult for Mr Shamir, who is not known for his flexibility. To win agreement on peace talks with Palestinians is hard enough. To get a consensus on a Palestinian delegation which includes Palestinian deportees and Arabs from East Jerusalem (as a frustrated Mr Baker has proposed) is still more difficult.

As this last great gathering gains momentum, Israel needs American support more than ever. The White House therefore has an increasingly powerful lever to exact the concessions it sees as desirable. An undertaking that it does not contemplate large-scale new settlement in the disputed territories is a price Israel should be prepared to pay for progress towards peace and for help in absorbing its new countrymen from the Soviet Union.

AND THEN THERE WAS ONE

When the Nicaraguan people sent their revolutionary leaders packing last Sunday they also sharpened the solitude of a lonely man — Fidel Castro, the last relic of unreconstructed Leninism outside Albania and Asia. The Cuban leader has watched in disgust as the people of Eastern Europe have yielded to the allure of capitalism and cast off their "socialist gains". He has suffered in sorrow as his Soviet benefactors have abandoned old dogmas and set off into heretical lands.

In December, the Americans removed his useful ally Manuel Noriega of Panama and then last Sunday came proof that the anti-communist wolf had leaped the Atlantic and was padding around the Caribbean back yard. Apart from Cuba, Nicaragua was the only surviving remnant of tropical Marxism and, despite some recent estrangement, it was the one dearest to Dr Castro's heart.

When they shot their way to power in 1979, the Sandinistas were Fidel's boys. He had inspired them and trained them and armed them. In Fidel's view, President Daniel Ortega had only himself to blame for his defeat. "You chose to take the revolution on to the bourgeois' territory and you lost", he was reported to have shouted at Senator Ortega in an angry telephone call on Monday.

Consulting his people via the ballot box is the last thing Dr Castro plans for Cuba. The faster communism withers around the planet, the further he drives his country into harsh isolation. Last month, he decided it was time to respond to the worldwide "crisis of socialism" with what were called profound reforms. This, it turned out, meant calling a party congress for 1991 with the task of "making more perfect" the Leninist control of the State.

In southern Florida, home to several hundred thousands Cuban exiles, they are so sure that Dr Castro's regime is disintegrating

LEAD KINDLY LIGHT

This year marks the centenary of the death of John Henry Newman, one of the most eminent of all the great Victorians. He is being remembered far and wide: in his two cities, Birmingham and Oxford; his two colleges, Oriel and Trinity; his two churches, the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church; and in a variety of lesser institutions with which he was associated, usually by having started them. He seems by now to belong to everyone, and the National Portrait Gallery has this week paid its own tribute by opening an exhibition in his honour.

There is already a whole international industry in Newman doctoral theses, no doubt partly explained by the sheer pleasure of exploring his angelic prose. Seldom has the English language been deployed so lucidly to such rigorous intellectual purpose.

A subtle difference exists between an artificial anniversary and a real one. The artificial variety is dreamt up to promote contemporary causes. A real anniversary, in which category it would be right to put that of Newman, refuses to allow itself to be used for such ulterior purposes. It responds to a public interest which already exists independently of the calendar.

What then does Cardinal Newman mean today? What he was first famous for was the launching of a movement to restore Tradition to the Church of England, in which Church his heirs keep up a good fight which is still neither won nor lost. He wanted to make it a truer Church, but his personal search was for the true Church; so he became famous — for a while infamous — for his conversion from Anglicanism to Rome.

The contemporary relevance of his startling transfer of allegiance has been somewhat diminished by the modern ecumenical movement, where the hostilities over which Church

is truest have been superseded. But that revolution in relationships was itself largely the result of the Second Vatican Council, 1962-65, which has frequently been referred to as Newman's Council because of the way so many of his insights at last found their mark. The modern Roman Catholic Church has become increasingly aware how much it owes to one 19th-century Englishman, who transplanted his Oxford Anglican mind into a Roman Catholic soul with astonishingly fertile consequences.

Newman next became famous as the object of Charles Kingsley's insouciant barbs, and for his defence of himself in his great *Apologia*, which was the great literary sensation of its time. From then on he was rarely out of the public eye; and towards the end he became famous as a Cardinal, which was no mere ex officio elevation but a personal tribute of Pope Leo XIII. He is famous still, not least for his hymn *Lead Kindly Light and Praise to the Holiest in the height*, which comes from his epic poem, later set by Elgar, *The Dream of Gerontius*.

He died on August 11, 1890, the hundredth anniversary of which will mark the culmination of this Newman year, and his influence does not diminish even now. His *Idea of a University* illuminates the contemporary debate over the purposes of academic education as a beacon flashing out a piercing message — "There is a knowledge which is desirable, though nothing come of it, as being of itself a treasure, and a sufficient recompence of years of labour." It may be a little out of fashion, though its time will come again. And so, it may be hoped, will favour return to Newman's "idea of a gentleman" — "It is almost a definition of a gentleman to say that he is one who never inflicts pain."

The contemporary relevance of his startling transfer of allegiance has been somewhat diminished by the modern ecumenical movement, where the hostilities over which Church

Lone Rangers in the inner-city

From the President of the Royal Town Planning Institute

Sir, The Prime Minister's commitment to a private and public-sector partnership in the Action for Cities campaign (report, March 1) is welcome. Unfortunately, she has in mind the kind of partnership which existed between the Lone Ranger and Tonto.

The public sector plays the Lone Ranger — a (well-fed) hero on a white horse given more public money to spend on silver bullets. The public sector is Tonto — the sidekick who repeatedly gets into trouble and has to be rescued by the Lone Ranger.

Whilst more Government cash goes to the private sector, local authorities are now being forced to put a large proportion of their capital receipts into debt redemption rather than new regeneration. This is the economics of yesterday, not of the entrepreneurial tomorrow.

As inner-city renewal up and down the country has shown, an effective partnership requires the public sector to provide the context, certainty, and infrastructure — or doing the job where the private sector can't — which will encourage the private sector to invest in the high-risk, less attractive parts of our cities where growth is most needed.

The Government should implement the Audit Commission's recommendation of local regeneration strategies drawn up by local authorities in partnership with the private sector and the community.

Local authority capital spending would then be free of unnecessary restrictions where it is implementing regeneration strategy. In this way, we can move towards a coordinated approach and away from the fragmentation which the Audit Commission criticised.

Our inner cities require planning and true partnership; they cannot be left entirely to the Lone Rangers.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN THOMPSON,
President,
The Royal Town Planning
Institute,
26 Portland Place, WI.
March 1.

TV and football

From Sir John Nichols
Sir, You report today (March 2) on your sports pages that the international football authorities are considering altering the structure of games in a coming competition to break the game into four quarters to provide more intervals for TV advertising.

I can't make out why this idea should offend me so much. I'm not all that keen on TV soccer but I nevertheless have a feeling that we are facing yet another great shove down the dizzy slope of triviality.

If the idea had come from the players complaining about the strain of the game it would have been different. But the prospect that a well-founded and long-standing pattern should be thrown away for advertising convenience seems wrong.

No doubt those who arrange TV contracts are likely to say that the sport needs the money and that we will all benefit in some unspecified way. But then I think that was where the dizzy slope began.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN NICHOLLS,
Dove Barn,
Old Coast Road,
Ormesby St Margaret,
Norfolk.
March 2.

Cricketing tribute

From Canon Eric James

Sir, The death of L. E. G. Ames, the Kent and England cricketer (Obituaries, February 28) will stir many a grateful memory. For the late Bishop John Robinson, for instance, the Canterbury Cricket Week was a kind of secular "Holy Week", with people like Ames and Frank Woolley as the "holy ones".

As a schoolboy at Marlborough, John Robinson produced what was virtually his first book (nearly a quarter of a century before *Honest to God*) — an analysis of Ames's career, from 1926-1939, occupying 150 pages. His scores and strokes are meticulously recorded and analysed by "spiders". The record is complete with score-cards and illustrations.

This particular week seems an appropriate time to give thanks not only for L. E. G. Ames but for the game of cricket, which he made such a signal contribution.

Yours sincerely,
ERIC JAMES
11 Denby Crescent,
Kennington, SE11.
February 28.

Christ in history

From the Reverend Tony Higton

Sir, Clifford Longley ("Religious Durham Inquisition", February 24) is mistaken to think that the Bishop of Durham was subjected to a "second trial" at the recent General Synod. My amendment provided the synod for the first time with a motion effectively calling for his resignation. The fact that it was rejected will add to the disillusionment, hurt and betrayal felt by thousands of Christians.

Christianity is essentially based on the historical events of Christ's birth, life, death, empty tomb, etc. If any of these events did not occur historically then belief in the incarnation, atonement and Resurrection becomes untenable. The whole Christ-event is an invasion

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Motorway plan for Twyford Down

From the Director of the British Road Federation

Sir, Your suggestion ("Motorway Madness", February 28) that the transport secretary has made the wrong decision over M3 Twyford Down is open to question on at least two counts.

This is not the first time that similar indignation has been expressed over the anticipated environmental impact of major road developments. I recall the M40 at Chiltern escarpment, the M62 in the Pennines, the M6 in the Darenth Valley.

About the latter the Countryside Commission said publicly that the M25 would be an uncompromisingly alien element in an unspoilt area. Ten years later this scaremongering has been shown to be totally unjustified and the Darenth Valley is a better place.

Nor is cost the only criterion on which the M3 decision has been based. To quote from the inspector's report — and he recommended against the tunnel after two separate public inquiries:

... on the basis of evidence presented at these inquiries, the environmental superiority of a major tunnel alternative is outweighed by the combined effects of substantially higher capital costs and worse economic performance, a much delayed opening date, the implications of adverse traffic distribution on Winchester and St Cross, the provision of large sites for soil disposal and disruption to BR, which by comparison with the Department's proposals are not

Yours faithfully,
PATRICIA EDWARDS
Chairman, Planning Committee,
Winchester City Council,
Crabtree, Lanham Lane,
Winchester, Hampshire.
February 28.

From Councillor Mrs P. Edwards

Sir, As you indicated so cogently in your leading article today, Mr Parkinson's decision to ravage Twyford Down was taken on grounds of economy alone. None of the other arguments he cited stand up to scrutiny. Perhaps he should consult our European partners on the efficacy of tunnels to accommodate jettisoned lorries.

Winchester City Council commissioned expert advice from a well-known firm of civil engineers, with proven experience in the construction of such tunnels, before taking the decision to support this solution. Indeed, the inspector in his report acknowledges the feasibility and environmental superiority of the tunnel. English Heritage and the Countryside Commission — Government appointed advisers — condemn the cutting.

Mr Thatcher has stated that we should regard ourselves as guardians of our heritage to preserve it for future generations. The Government is anxious to make those responsible for pollution pay the cost. Hampshire County Council has recently condemned a "green" disgrace but conveniently closed its eyes to the destruction of an area of outstanding natural beauty within sight of County Hall. The public will judge them all by their deeds.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICIA EDWARDS
Chairman, Planning Committee,
Winchester City Council,
Crabtree, Lanham Lane,
Winchester, Hampshire.
February 28.

From the Reverend R. W. Hammond

Sir, Those of us who live near the Winchester bypass and regularly drive around its tortuous and perilous bends, would agree that the Secretary of State for Transport has pursued its obligation to consult, even to the extent of a second inquiry — with further delay — to allow the Countryside Commission and English Heritage to appear.

At last a conclusion has been reached jointly by the secretaries of state for the environment and transport. Let to delay and get on with an urgently needed piece of road. On past evidence, the gloom will be proved to be quite unjustified.

Yours faithfully,
R. W. HAMMOND
Chairman, Planning Committee,
Winchester City Council,
Crabtree, Lanham Lane,
Winchester, Hampshire.
February 28.

Community care of mentally ill

From Professor Robert Bluglass
Sir, Psychiatric patients are increasingly to be cared for by a network of services in the community rather than in hospital. On February 27 (early editions) you reported the concern expressed by Judge Lumbury, QC, at the Central Criminal Court about the release from hospital of patients who rely on medication.

This is a concern shared by many professionals who are aware of the problems in management, and occasionally risk, that can arise when such patients cease to take the drugs prescribed for them, which are crucial for their continued community care.

At the present time, such patients cannot be recalled to hospital compulsorily, should they refuse an invitation to be admitted voluntarily, until their mental state has deteriorated seriously. A number of proposals have been made to change the Mental Health Act 1983, for instance, to introduce a new form of "community care order" and to extend the powers of guardianship for psychiatric patients. However, compulsory treatment in the community is in many ways unsatisfactory and is an intrusion upon civil rights, whether by treatment order or by changing guardianship.

I suggest that the solution which would be applicable to most patients in this category would be to amend the Act to allow the discharge of appropriate patients, with the condition that they would continue to be subject to recall to a hospital if the patient failed to take medication. This would be a form of conditional discharge along similar lines to that already allowed for patients on restriction orders who are discharged by a Mental Health Review Tribunal.

A patient subject to such a qualified discharge should be allowed a periodic application to have his case reviewed by a tribunal.

Yours faithfully,
R. S. BLUGLASS
The University of Birmingham,
Department of Psychiatry,
Reaside Clinic,
Bristol Road South,
Rubery, Rednal,
Birmingham.

February 28.

S Africa's poor whites

From Mr D. G. Evans
Sir, Despite extensive attention to the developments in South Africa, the important issue of the "poor whites" is seldom mentioned.

Forming the main support for the right-wing parties, they derive from an Afrikaner background occupying poorly paid jobs in the Civil Service, police, railways, Post Office and similar Government organisations, making up half of the white work-force in the country.

They are the most vulnerable as job reservation disappears and Asian, Coloured and, in due course, Bantu blacks begin to threaten their livelihood. They live in down-town areas, where the Group Areas Act fails to operate, and they have no other land in which to take refuge.

South Africa is a diverse country, with a dozen or more black ethnic groups. It is unfortunately hardly appreciated that the whites are equally diverse, with the poor whites occupying an important larger group.

Yours faithfully,
D. G. EVANS,
46 Layton's Lane,
Sunbury-on-Thames,
Middx.
February 26.

Fight against drugs

From Mr Philip F. Nind
Sir, The drugs industry possesses massive international organisations with elaborate distribution networks across national frontiers on a scale greater even than those of the large multinationals. It cares nothing for the evil it produces, and despite the valiant efforts of some individual drug enforcement agencies it thumb's nose at governments and at national boundaries.

Surely there is a case now for every national government to have an independent drugs department and for every Cabinet a senior minister for drugs? Let the EC set the ball rolling for Europe with its drugs ministers meeting regularly in the same way that its foreign ministers (and others) have done hitherto.

Yours sincerely,
PHILIP F. NIND,
The White House,
Abinger Common, Surrey.
February 26.

Ghost platform

From Mr John Wade
Sir, My late father always considered it to be disconcerting to leave a wireless set running in an empty room. "Letting the man talk with nobody to listen to him".

This morning, as my train wended its erratic

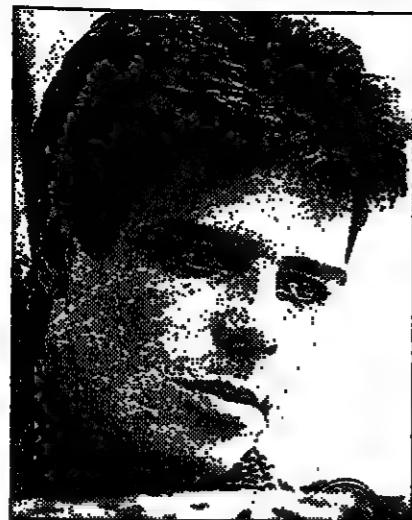
SATURDAY'S TELEVISION AND RADIO

Striking a blow at life

RADIO CHOICE

Peter Waymark

In case viewers on the British mainland are puzzled, *Clash of the Ash* (Channel 4, 10.00pm) takes its title from the Irish national sport of hurling. But hurling is only one strand in writer-director Fergus Tigh's drama of a disaffected schoolboy in a small Irish town. Phil Kelly (William Heffernan) may be a star on the sports field but the rest of his life is blighted by a nagging mother, disappointing school results, gang fights and experiments with dope.



William Heffernan: as the disaffected schoolboy Phil Kelly (Ch4, 10.00pm)

Compared with most dramas of small-town Ireland the notable omission is the suffocating influence of the Catholic Church, though Phil's school is run by a Father O'Leary. It is hardly giving anything away to say that Phil's frustration eventually boils over, helped by an old girlfriend returning from London with enticing tales of the big city. *Clash of the Ash* is the first in a season of dramas by young film makers from around the world, with pieces to come from New Zealand, Sweden and Canada. If Tigh, the writer, has provided a scenario which develops along predictable lines, Tigh the director has guided his cast to a series of fresh and natural performances and there is a nice feel for the texture of a small, tightly organized and conservative community.

For tonight's instalment of his excellent series *Misbehaviour* (BBC2, 8.00pm), Julian Petter travels to Asia. He calls his report *Story Ground* and he is not joking. Trying to spread the Christian message in the Orient must even be more discouraging than being the Labour Party agent in Guildford or Eastbourne. In a desperate attempt to wean middle-class Japanese away from Shintoism, with its practical benefits and minimum demands, a French priest set up his "church" in a whisky bar. He has managed just 30 converts in 10 years. "The closest most Japanese get to things spiritual," Petter caustically observes, "is a bottle of Black Label or Suntory Gold". An English missionary, Graham Burton, has fared little better in Pakistan, where memories of colonialism die hard and a challenge to Islam is tantamount to taking on the state itself. In Thailand, which has a history of Christian initiative by Americans, the locals are happy to make use of missionary hospitals and schools without feeling the need to embrace the faith. This is stony ground indeed but the faith is undimmed.

BBC

6.40 Open University: *Fun Maths - Comic Sections* 7.05 Elections and the People

7.30 Saturday Starts Here! with Wayne Jackson and Ian Tregoning, broadcast from Norden, Fochdale (n) 7.55 Laurel and Hardy in a cartoon *Stand Out, Stand In* (n) 8.00 *The New Adventures of Mighty Mouse*

8.15 Tales of the Road with Holmes. Episode one of a new series of series starring Roland Rat as the super-sleuth this morning investigating the case of *Wilson the Notorious Canary Trainer*. With Barbara Windsor and John Rapsley 8.35 *Thundercats in Adventure* (n) 8.45 *Going Live* presented by Sarah Greene and Phillip Schofield. This week's *Press Conference* guest is actress Dame Judi Dench 12.12 Weather

12.15 *Grandstand* introduced by Desirée and Lynn. The line-up is (subject to alteration): 12.20 *Goal! The World Cup* contenders in action; 12.30 *Globalight: the World four-men championship from St Moritz*. The reporter is Peter Walker; 12.35 *Meeting the Press* (n) 2.00 *Harold Park*, with commentary from Peter O'Sullivan and Richard Pitman, and the 1.15 and 1.45 from Newbury described by Julian Wilson and John Hammer; 3.15 *Rugby Union*: live coverage of the game between Wales and Scotland, the commentary by Eddie Butler; and at 4.00 highlights of the France v Ireland game in Paris where the commentators are Nigel Starmore, Smith and Brandon Mullin; 4.35 *Cricket*: news of the third one-day international between West Indies and England; 4.40 *Final Score* 5.00 *Weather*

5.05 *The Final Doctors: The Hobble Art* Sam and his new bride surprise everyone when they return home early from their honeymoon, and shock Katie when she finds out where they are to live. Starring Peter O'Brien and Liz Birch. (Ceefax)

6.05 *Jim'll Fix It*. Among those who have had their car repaired thanks to Jim'll Fix It is a 10-year-old Zoe Morgans, who becomes part of an animated cartoon sequence: a nurse from the Isle of Wight who is driven to her wedding in a white vintage car; and identical twin girls who discover just how identical they are. (Ceefax)

6.40 *Little and Large*. Eddie and Syd welcome Barry McGuigan, Gary Mason and Jimmy Somerville. (Ceefax)

7.15 *Five Young Sherlock Holmes* (1985) starring Nicholas Rowe, Alan Cox and Sophie Ward. Mystery thriller set in the 1870s, when the young master detective and his ever-faithful schoolfriend Watson begin their long and fruitful association by investigating the mysterious death of an eccentric schoolmaster. Directed by Barry Levinson. (Ceefax)

9.00 *News and Sport*, with Martyn Lewis. Weather

9.20 *Midnight Caller: Based on a True Story*. Late-night radio DJ Jack Killen is dubious when a Hollywood producer approaches him with the idea of turning his experiences of last year's San Francisco earthquake into a movie. Starring Gary Cole, Wendy Kilbourne and Dennis Dun. (Ceefax)

10.10 *Rory Bremner*. The man of a thousand faces and a thousand disguises is joined by John Bird, Steve Nallon and Eric Ralston (r) 10.40 *World Championship Boxing*. Deemont Lyman introduces coverage of the world's lightweight title fight at Wembley Arena between Britain's Lloyd Honeyghan and the holder Mark Breland of the United States. The commentator is Harry Carpenter. (Ceefax)

11.40 *International Cricket*. Highlights of the third one-day international between West Indies and England, introduced by Tony Lewis

12.30am *Film: Momo's Back in Town* (1971) starring Jon Don Baker, Sally Field, Telly Savalas and Martin Sheen. A made-for-television thriller about a ruthless killer who returns to his home town after having served his prison sentence. The local police are justifiably curious about his presence. Directed by Marvin Chomsky

1.40 *Weather*

ITV LONDON

6.00 *Open University: Fun Maths - Comic Sections* 7.05 *Elections and the People*

7.30 *Saturday Starts Here!* with Wayne Jackson and Ian Tregoning, broadcast from Norden, Fochdale (n) 7.55 Laurel and Hardy in a cartoon *Stand Out, Stand In* (n) 8.00 *The New Adventures of Mighty Mouse*

8.15 *Tales of the Road with Holmes*. Episode one of a new series of series starring Roland Rat as the super-sleuth this morning investigating the case of *Wilson the Notorious Canary Trainer*. With Barbara Windsor and John Rapsley 8.35 *Thundercats in Adventure* (n) 8.45 *Going Live* presented by Sarah Greene and Phillip Schofield. This week's *Press Conference* guest is actress Dame Judi Dench 12.12 Weather

12.15 *Grandstand* introduced by Desirée and Lynn. The line-up is (subject to alteration): 12.20 *Goal! The World Cup* contenders in action; 12.30 *Globalight: the World four-men championship from St Moritz*. The reporter is Peter Walker; 12.35 *Meeting the Press* (n) 2.00 *Harold Park*, with commentary from Peter O'Sullivan and Richard Pitman, and the 1.15 and 1.45 from Newbury described by Julian Wilson and John Hammer; 3.15 *Rugby Union*: live coverage of the game between Wales and Scotland, the commentary by Eddie Butler; and at 4.00 highlights of the France v Ireland game in Paris where the commentators are Nigel Starmore, Smith and Brandon Mullin; 4.35 *Cricket*: news of the third one-day international between West Indies and England; 4.40 *Final Score* 5.00 *News and Sport* 5.15 *Weather*

5.05 *The Final Doctors: The Hobble Art* Sam and his new bride surprise everyone when they return home early from their honeymoon, and shock Katie when she finds out where they are to live. Starring Peter O'Brien and Liz Birch. (Ceefax)

6.05 *Jim'll Fix It*. Among those who have had their car repaired thanks to Jim'll Fix It is a 10-year-old Zoe Morgans, who becomes part of an animated cartoon sequence: a nurse from the Isle of Wight who is driven to her wedding in a white vintage car; and identical twin girls who discover just how identical they are. (Ceefax)

6.40 *Little and Large*. Eddie and Syd welcome Barry McGuigan, Gary Mason and Jimmy Somerville. (Ceefax)

7.15 *Five Young Sherlock Holmes* (1985) starring Nicholas Rowe, Alan Cox and Sophie Ward. Mystery thriller set in the 1870s, when the young master detective and his ever-faithful schoolfriend Watson begin their long and fruitful association by investigating the mysterious death of an eccentric schoolmaster. Directed by Barry Levinson. (Ceefax)

9.00 *News and Sport*, with Martyn Lewis. Weather

9.20 *Midnight Caller: Based on a True Story*. Late-night radio DJ Jack Killen is dubious when a Hollywood producer approaches him with the idea of turning his experiences of last year's San Francisco earthquake into a movie. Starring Gary Cole, Wendy Kilbourne and Dennis Dun. (Ceefax)

10.10 *Rory Bremner*. The man of a thousand faces and a thousand disguises is joined by John Bird, Steve Nallon and Eric Ralston (r) 10.40 *World Championship Boxing*. Deemont Lyman introduces coverage of the world's lightweight title fight at Wembley Arena between Britain's Lloyd Honeyghan and the holder Mark Breland of the United States. The commentator is Harry Carpenter. (Ceefax)

11.40 *International Cricket*. Highlights of the third one-day international between West Indies and England, introduced by Tony Lewis

12.30am *Film: Momo's Back in Town* (1971) starring Jon Don Baker, Sally Field, Telly Savalas and Martin Sheen. A made-for-television thriller about a ruthless killer who returns to his home town after having served his prison sentence. The local police are justifiably curious about his presence. Directed by Marvin Chomsky

1.40 *Weather*

BBC 2

6.00 *Open University*

7.45 *Shirks!* The concluding episode of the Indian drama serial and Shirks recover from cholera (in Hindi) and English subtitles (r)

8.30 *Wednesday Evening* (1989) starring Randolph Scott and Barbara Hale. A disgraced cavalry captain is given the chance to regain his honour when his volunteers to recover the body of Custer from the battlefield at the end of the Civil War. Directed by Joseph L. Lewis

9.35 *International Boxes*. David Icke introduces coverage of the final of the Embassy World Indoor chess championships from the Preston Guild Hall. David Icke and Jimmy Dawson are the commentators with summaries by John Bell, Mai Hughes and David McGill

10.15 *Rhythms of the World: Staff Keita*. Complementing last night's *Arena documentary* on Staff Keita's life is this short of his five performances at London's Brudenell Academy

7.15 *NewsView*. Moira Stuart with today's news and sport; Lynette Lithgow reviews the week's news in pictures with subtitles. Weather

8.00 *International Story Ground* (see *Choice*)

8.50 *Saturday Night Clive*. Clive James is joined by writer and film-maker John Waters, who has been described as the "Pop of Trash", for another critical glance at the changing world of broadcasting

9.35 *Meeting Out*. The show with Michael Parkinson, through and Beauchamp announces the closure of Lyne Electronics, but not before Queenie has a slice of sweet-tasting revenge with which to celebrate the news. With Marig Clarke and Deborah Norton (r). (Ceefax)

10.25 *The Film Club*. Gilbert Adair introduces two Roberto Rossellini films featuring Francis Ford (1950, b/w) starring Aldo Fabrizi and Arlesina Lemaire. The story of the humble Italian friar who founded the Franciscan order and whose closeness to God led Pope Pius XI to call him "the second Christ" (in Italian, *Il secondo Cristo*)

11.50 *From the Rise to Power of Louis XIV* (1965) starring Jean-Marie Pata, Silvigny and Raymond Jourdan. The story of the young king who, on the death of his mentor Cardinal Mazarin, takes over the reins of government (in French with English subtitles)

1.30am *International Bowls*. Highlights of the remaining singles semi-final of the Embassy World Indoor Championships. Ends at 2.30

2.30am *Weather*

3.00am *Shirks!* Final episode of the Brazilian soap

3.00am *Equinox: The Art of Description* (r)

3.00am *Film: The Merchant of Venice* (1944, b/w) starring Spencer Tracy, Elizabeth Taylor and Nigal Patrick. Comedy about the life of a female robot who has created. Directed by Bernard Knowles

4.20am *Dance with Me*. Final episode of the Brazilian soap

4.30am *Equinox: The Art of Description* (r)

4.30am *International Boxes* (r)

5.00am *Right To Reply*. The *Orphan*

5.00am *Winifred Show* on rape and *A Strike*

5.30am *Scottish Eye*. A profile of Michael Forsyth, the MP who has been given the task of getting the Conservative Party into Scotland

7.00 *The World This Week* includes a look at Sweden's political difficulties

7.15 *Europe Followed by Weather*

8.00 *Adventures*. *White Fury*. A raft journey through Tibet brings not only exciting moments on the water, but also some remarkable insights into the Himalayan Kingdom. (Oracle)

8.30am *Grand Canyon*. The spectacular

9.00 *Horizon* (see *Choice*)

10.00am *The Oprah Winfrey Show*

10.30am *Wild Pony*

11.00am *Weekend* (see *Choice*)

11.30am *Shirks!* Final episode of the Brazilian soap

12.30am *Weather*

1.00am *Shirks!* Final episode of the Brazilian soap

1.30am *Winifred Show*

2.00am *Right To Reply*

2.30am *Weather*

3.00am *Winifred Show*

3.30am *Shirks!* Final episode of the Brazilian soap

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7.30am *Weather*

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1.00am *Shirks!* Final episode of the Brazilian soap

1.30am *Weather*

2.00am *Shirks!* Final episode of the Brazilian soap

2.30am *Weather*

3.00am *Shirks!* Final episode of the Brazilian soap

3.30am *Weather*

SUNDAY'S TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Gillian Maxey

Flying the flag on autopilot

TELEVISION CHOICE

Peter Waymark

Billed as "a series of films on British Airways", *Airliner* (BBC2, 8.35pm) promises to be a lot more interesting than this bald description would suggest. I did not know that the members of a 747 crew are each served different meals in case of food poisoning. Or, on a more serious level, that 98 percent of a flight is on autopilot, giving the human pilots little to do. "Flying an airliner is hours and hours of boredom punctuated by moments of stark terror" is the verdict of Captain Ted Deacon, as he sits back and lets the computer guide 327 passengers and assorted dogs and cats on the flight from Heathrow to Bangkok. Do we need pilots at all, or will planes eventually be flown from the ground? Air traffic controllers, who work longer hours than pilots for a quarter of the salary, think this is already happening. But pity the pilots' wives, stuck at home alone for half the year while their husbands live it up in luxury hotels. And pity the women pilots. They are as common as women MPs, face similar prejudices and not one of them has yet made it to captain.



Captain Ted Deacon: relaxes and lets the computer do the work (BBC2, 8.35pm)

RADIO CHOICE

Peter Davalle

All good things must come to an end, even *The Radio 4 Debate* (8.00pm). The programmes have been models of their kind: strong views, most of them succinctly expressed, by the "for" and "against" speakers; useful arguments from the audience; firm control of the proceedings from the resident chairman Brian Redhead. If, and when, a new series is planned, serious consideration should be given to extending the debates by 15 minutes. Better still, by 30. All the subjects debated during the past four weeks – and certainly tonight's clash of opinions on the motion that our present prison system cannot rehabilitate offenders – have been meaty, complex, and controversial enough to warrant extra time. I almost said injury time, because in *The Radio 4 Debate*, no quarter is sought and none is given.

RADIO 1

RADIO 2

FM Stereo and MW
News on the half-hour from 6.30am until 12.30pm, then at 2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30pm.
5.00am Tim Smit 7.00 Bruno and Liz Breakfast Show 10.00
Dave Lee Travis 12.30pm Pick of the Pops: Alan Freeman with the week's Top 20 charts from 1983, 1985 and 1987 3.00
Scripted: It presented by Simon Mayo 4.00 Phil Daniels 8.00 Top 10 with Emma Brookner 7.00 Anne Nightingale Request Show 8.00 Andy Kershaw 11.00-12.00am Bob Harris on Sunday

RADIO 3

RADIO 4

6.30am Open University (FM only)
1.00 Weather and News Headlines
7.00 Handel: A series featuring the Concerto Grosso, Op 6, The Sinfonia Choir and Orchestra under Christopher, with Lynn Dawson, soprano; Ian Partridge, tenor; perform O Sing unto the Lord a New Song and Vienna Concertus Musica under Harmscourt performs Concerto Grossos in E minor, Op 6 No 31
7.30 News
7.45 Motorwatch: LPO under conductor performs Schumann's *Carmina Burana*; Rossini's *Yusef and Zuleika*; Quartz (Flute Concerto in C minor); Orchestral Ensemble of Paris under Waleck, with Jean-Pierre Rampal; Mozart's *Divertimento in B flat*; Wind Ensemble of the Vienna PO; Jorgen (String) Ensemble; Concertante: St. Francesco SO under de Ward, with Michael Murray, organ
10.30 Muzakovka: Schindlerian Saison, in the Shadow of Sibels' "Michael" takes us on a musical journey in Finland
11.15 BBC Scottish SO under Andrew Davies performs *Wotan* (Chorus); Miskatonic: Shostakovich (Symphony No 1); Sappho (Piano Concerto No 2)
12.00pm Viola and Piano: Yuri Bashmet and Mihail Muntan perform Schubert's *Sonata* (Arpeggione); Shostakovich (Sonata, Op 147)
1.40 Post of the Month: James Fenton introduces "The Post of the Month" from his latest column
1.45 Towards Bach (new series): A series of 16 programmes, including concerts from last year's South Bank season and specially recorded studio performances. Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment under Gustav Leonhardt (Suite No 4 "Joumal du Printemps"); J.S. Bach (Cantata No 207, *Vergess' Zweitacht der weissenden Saison*; Bach's *Canzona No 208*; Schleifer, Weinen, etc 2.30
2.30 Classical Music Review

BBC 1

6.45 Open University
8.00 Playdays (r)
9.15 Morning Worship: A new series from the campus chapel at Sussex University

10.00 BBC1 (r) 10.25 Buongiorno Italia (r) 10.50 Europeana: France's rich and poor

11.30 You in Mind: Being assertive (r)

11.30 Step Up to Word Power: Making the most of an interview (Ceefax)

11.30 You Are What You Eat: A guide to healthy eating presented by Liza Goldsmith (r), (Ceefax)

12.00 Head For the hearing (Ceefax)

12.30 Country File reports on the plans to build a motorway across Towydown Down 12.35 Weather

1.00 News with Moira Stuart followed by On the Record: The Shadow Education Secretary, Jack Straw, is questioned about his party's education policy by Peter Jay

2.00 EastEnders (r), (Ceefax)

3.00 Casino Royale (1957)

3.00 The Clothes Show includes Andy

3.00 Reports on the Lloyds Bank

3.00 The Clothes Show includes Andy

A career boat that Thatcher missed

By Nigel Williamson
Political Staff

Britain's loss could have been India's gain, Mrs Thatcher revealed yesterday when she told a party of Welsh schoolchildren that her original ambition had been to join the Civil Service in colonial India.

Her plans were thwarted – and the future course of history changed – when the post-war Labour Government granted Indian independence in 1947.

Instead Mrs Thatcher took up a career in science which led to a position analyzing cake fillings at Lyons before she went into the law, met Denis, and then began her rise up the political ladder.

The Prime Minister was entertaining a group of 15 schoolchildren from Gendros Primary School in Swansea, who are making a video for a satellite link-up with pen-friends in the United States.

She told them: "When I was very small I wanted to join the Indian civil service ... but by the time I was at university India was an independent nation and so then I started in science".

Betraying a fascination with the sub-continent, at least partly inspired by her oft-repeated passion for the works of Rudyard Kipling, Mrs Thatcher praised the old imperialist regime which had run the country "very well".

However, the workaholic Prime Minister might well have become frustrated and unable to adjust to the more leisurely pace of life which characterized India.

In a message aimed at the Welsh children's transatlantic penfriends, the Prime Minister expressed her admiration for the vitality of North American life.

She told the children: "Everyone is just go, go. They are not grumpy and down in the mouth; they are optimistic."

"They don't give 100 reasons for why they can't do something; they give two or three reasons why they can do something and do it now".

The children ended their Downing Street visit by presenting the Prime Minister with two wooden, carved Welsh "love spoons", bearing the initials M and D.

Fell runners tackle their own Everest

GRAHAM WOOD



Fell runners during the annual Grasmere Guides Race; inset: Scotland's Jack Maitland at the five-mile post of the Everest Marathon last year.

By Ruth Gledhill

Fell runners in the Lake District are in training to scale the equivalent of the height of Mount Everest along the course of the world's first mountain race at Grasmere, Cumbria.

The four runners, starting at 2am, will take turns to run 300 feet to Butter Crags and back until the height of Mount Everest, 29,028 feet, is achieved.

Each runner will attempt eight ascents to the crags up a mountain side so steep that some parts

can be climbed at little more than a walk or, by a tired runner, on all fours.

Mr Mike Harding, singer, comedian, author and the former president of the "Rambler's" Association, has agreed to attempt the final ascent and set a finishing time for other teams to challenge.

The intention is to find a company to sponsor the project, which is to help raise £20,000 to

build a school in the Himalayan mountains of Nepal 10,000 miles away and to build a science and natural history room at Grasmere School.

Race has been taking place since 1868. The record for the present course, which the relay team is using, is just over 12 minutes.

The mountain run is the brainchild of Mr Andrew Astle, a local postman who also has a child at Grasmere school.

Dr McCormick, who is curator for the Wordsworth Trust, said: "We hope to establish a time for the relay that teams will compete against next year. It could become an annual event."

The annual Grasmere Guides

Scots hold back the clock

Continued from page 1

monization would mean more than 2,000 people would be saved from death or serious injury on the roads each year. He said it was generally accepted that the change would enhance business and improve leisure opportunities.

Britain could end up with the "worst of all worlds" – out of step with Europe for 11 months each year and darker evenings in September.

British time is one hour

behind the rest of the EC for most of the year. Harmonization would bring lighter summer evenings and darker winter mornings, but would make Scottish winters seem especially long and gloomy.

A senior official said: "There is a general feeling that, with the Scots in near open revolt about it, discretion should be the better part of valour."

Mr Donald Dewar, Labour spokesman for Scotland, said

that if ministers decided to bury the idea "nobody would mourn at its grave". "It has run into a lot of opposition... particularly in Scotland. The psychological impact... would be very considerable."

It is understood Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, has warned Cabinet colleagues that time harmonization could only further damage the Conservatives' already weak position north of the border.

By Michael McCarthy, Environment Correspondent

The Fisheries Minister, Mr David Curry, yesterday refused to give a categorical assurance that Britain would meet its own 1993 deadline for ending the dumping of industrial wastes in the North Sea.

Speaking to *The Times*, Mr Curry declined to rule out absolutely the issuing of new licences beyond that date to the two companies principally involved, ICI at Billingham and Chris Patten, Secretary of State for Scotland.

Glasgow vitality praised by Queen

Continued from page 1

ional outlook. Mr Richard Luce, the Minister for the Arts, added to the spirit of European unity displayed at the event by suggesting that the newly-freed cities of Eastern Europe should apply for the title in the next few years.

The Queen, who is patron of the event, said: "The recognition is well-deserved. The traditional Glaswegian virtues of vitality and self-confidence have enabled you to reach for this prize with a determination which has overcome strong competition."

She visited the British Art Show at the McLellan Galleries – an exhibition by some of the most avant-garde and esoteric artists in the UK today – and said after officially opening the refurbished galleries: "I enjoyed the experience."

Glasgow, she added, was a city of impressive cultural wealth. "In addition to its many fine buildings and well-stocked museums, it makes a major contribution to the fine arts. I also admire the city's willingness to break down the artificial barriers that are so often raised between art and everyday life, by involving the whole community in the cultural life of the city."

M Chirac, who handed over the title to Mrs Susan Baird, Glasgow's Lord Provost, before 1,500 guests at the King's Theatre, said the great cities of Europe had a key role to play in the introduction of democracy throughout the continent.

"Now, more than ever, is the time to build a united Europe. Europeans have a lively hope and faith in the future of their continent."

Europe had emerged from a past characterized by conflicts, common hopes and projects. The great urban centres had the capacity to give renewed life to European spiritual and cultural identity.

Others who attended the handing over included Mr Neil Kinnock, European industrialists, politicians, culture ministers, diplomats and figures from the arts world. The lunch at the City Chambers was attended by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, and Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland.

UK in marine dumping row

By Michael McCarthy, Environment Correspondent

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State for the Environment, Mr

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Curry was asked by *The Times* yesterday to clear up confusion over the deadline for ending industrial waste dumping. Britain agreed to halt the practice by December last year along with other countries at the Second North Sea Conference in The Hague next week, to be attended by Mr Chris Patten, Secretary of State for Scotland.

His remarks are likely to intensify the growing international row over Britain's continued marine dumping of chemical waste and sewage sludge. The row will come to a head at the Third North Sea Conference in London in 1987.

The other North Sea nations

have all now phased it out and are bitterly critical of Britain.

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- SELLING: PRIZE IS THE PERK 24

MONEY

SATURDAY MARCH 3 1990

SECTION 2

17

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6530 (-0.0125)

W German mark
2.8360 (-0.0212)

Exchange index
88.7 (-0.6)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1774.2 (+9.3)

FT-SE 100
2254.8 (+16.4)

USM (Datstream)
n/a

Market report, page 20

Sterling battered

The pound took a battering for the second day as central bank intervention against the rising dollar restored the mark to favour after concern over German monetary union.

Sterling's trade-weighted index closed at 88.7, down 0.6 on the previous close, repeating the fall of the day before when sentiment against the currency seemed to have soured. Last Friday it was at 90.2.

Funds peril

Sharp falls in Tokyo have highlighted the dangers of offshore funds investing in Japanese equity warrants. The DTI is examining whether UK regulations should be amended in view of less restrictive offshore rules.

Family Money, page 23

Ferranti gain

Ferranti International banked £270 million from the sale of its radar division to GEC yesterday and cancelled a £187 million rights issue.

STOCK MARKETS

New York
Dow Jones ... 2648.77 (+14.18)
Tokyo
Nikkei Average 34057.56 (+22.56)
Hong Kong
Hang Seng ... 2807.53 (+4.80)
Amsterdam
CBS Tendancy ... 106.9 (+1.8)
Sydney: AO ... 1568.2 (+2.3)
Frankfurt DAX ... 1218.23 (+0.36)
Business
General ... 573.99 (+26.80)
Port CAC ... 498.65 (-0.94)
Zurich: SKA Gen ... 600.2 (+3.8)
London
FT-A All Share ... 1211.03 (+4.89)
FT-500 ... 1284.41 (-8.52)
FT: Gold Mines ... 283.5 (-1)
FT: Fixed interest ... 88.64 (-0.05)
FT: Govt Secs ... 76.80 (-0.30)
Recent issues
4pm prices ... Page 20
Page 21

MAIN PRICE CHANGES
NSE: Standard Chart ... 5724.00 (+10p)
Thorn EMI ... 650.00p (+10p)
Kleen E-Ze ... 172.5p (+15p)
Smithkline Beecham ... 523.50p (+25p)
Horn Corp ... 771.5p (+15p)
AIM ... 180p (+10p)

FALLS: Selskey ... 2530 (-95p)
Granada ... 297.5p (-10p)
Johnson Cleaners ... 587.5p (-10p)
Chiffington ... 111.5p (-10p)
Body Shop ... 485.0p (-11p)
Estates & Agency ... 330p (-20p)
Grainger ... 269.5p (-10p)
McKinsey ... 301.5p (-10p)
Sopwith ... 301.0p (-10p)
Linen ... 425.0p (-10p)
Fife Art Davis ... 217.5p (-10p)
Grand Met ... 546.0p (-74p)
Scottish & New ... 300p (-10p)
4pm prices ... Page 19
Barclays ... 21938
SEAC Volume ... 542.5m

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Rate: 15%
3-month interbank: 15-15.1%
3-month equities: 14-14.1%
US Prime Rate: 10%
Federal Funds: 8.3%
3-month Treasury Bills: 7.77-7.79%
30-year bonds: 9.5-9.5%

CURRENCIES

London: £ 51.6500
\$ 1.6530
DM 2.8360
\$ 2.8360
F 1.6530
FF 9.5708
Yen 247.67
E 88.7
ECU 10.71427
SDR 0.763535
£ 0.01303576 E 0.27627

GOLD

London Fixing:
A\$ 408.40 cm \$405.05
\$ 3403.25-343.75 (243.75)
243.75
New York
Comex \$403.40-403.80*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Agr) ... \$19.2000 (\$19.45)
* Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

Australia: \$
Australia: \$
Australia: \$
Belgium: £
Canada: \$
Denmark: Kr.
France: F^{fr}
Germany: Dm
Greece: Dr
Hong Kong: \$
Japan: Yen
Japan: Yen
Malta: Lira
New Zealand: \$
Norway: Kr.
Portugal: Esc
South Africa: R^{za}
Spain: Pes^{sp}
Sweden: Kr.
Switzerland: Fr
Turkey: Lira
USA: \$
United Arab Emirates: Dir



By A Correspondent

The Dutch authorities have accepted a cash payment of £2.2 million in return for dropping a criminal investigation against a Canadian fraudster who, with his associates, allegedly made £100 million from the sale of near-worthless stocks to investors in the United Kingdom and elsewhere. The investors may eventually receive part of the £2.2 million, though exactly how much will be distributed is still undecided.

Mr Irving Kott, a Montreal businessman who in 1976 was fined Can\$500,000 for a securities fraud while a professor of McGill University in Montreal, has been under investigation by the Dutch since

1986, when his Amsterdam-based stockbroking firm, First Commerce Securities, was raided by police and closed down.

First Commerce Securities was the largest of the so-called "boiler-room" share dealing companies which took advantage of the Netherlands' broking law between 1980 and 1986, when tough new legislation was introduced.

At its peak, First Commerce had 20,000 clients, predominantly in the United Kingdom and Gulf states. Initially, it promoted shares in small over-the-counter companies. It acquired lines of shares before recommending them at a higher price to investors who believed they were receiving impartial advice.

Later, Mr Kott helped set up

DeVoe Holbein International, which was said to have developed a method of extracting minerals from various sources, including seawater. Its shares were quoted only by First Commerce, which forecast earnings of \$60-70 million in its first five years of operations. From \$1.50, the shares were quickly driven up to \$9 each. When First Commerce was closed down, the shares collapsed. They are now worthless.

First Commerce's other main promotion was City Clock International, an advertising company with forecast earnings of \$0.62c a share for 1987, and a share price predicted to rise from \$1.50 to \$20. The business filed for bankruptcy in November 1986, soon after the Dutch authorities' first move

against First Commerce, which was declared bankrupt in January 1987.

Now, a lawyer acting for Mr Kott has agreed to hand over 7 million guilders (£2.2 million) if proceedings against Kott, his Canadian associates Dominique Schinecate and Bashir Hussain, First Commerce's Dutch managing director Mr Walter Bonn, and two others, are dropped. Officials have withdrawn a warrant under which Mr Kott could have been detained if found in any country with which the Netherlands has an extradition treaty covering fraud.

The agreement does not affect inquiries by the Fraud Squad in the City of London into Investors Discount Brokerage, a share dealing company closed by the Department

of Trade in 1987, with debts of more than £1 million. IDB promoted a number of the same shares as First Commerce Securities, and its directors included Bashir Hussain.

Of the 7 million guilders agreed penalty, 5.5 million guilders will go to Mr Jan van Apeldoorn, liquidator of First Commerce Securities. He said tax claims could take up all the money. "I am trying to get these claims down so I will be able to distribute something to the investors," he said. He has already received claims from 9,000 investors totalling £17 million.

Mr Kott was unavailable for comment yesterday. He is believed to be in the Netherlands where he and his associates have interests in a small merchant bank.

UK investors may gain from fraud deal

Elders' stake in S&N sold for £90m loss

By Angela Mackay

Elders IXL, Australia's biggest brewer which is undergoing a major reconstruction, yesterday sold its 23 per cent stake in Scottish & Newcastle, realizing a loss of about £90 million on the deal.

Smith New Court, the broker, sold the entire stake at 290p a share to institutional investors in what the market believes is the largest equity-bought deal accomplished by a single brewing house.

The shares were sold at a 20p discount to the market to fetch £252 million, compared with £308 million if they had been sold at Elders' average entry price of 35p.

Holding costs of £36 million

£16 million of which were written off in the fast accounts

added to the losses.

Mr Alick Rankin, S&N's chairman, was delighted by the sale and said it was now "business as usual." S&N closed 10p lower at 300p.

The sale ends an audacious attempt by the owners of Courage in Britain, led by Mr John Elliott, the chairman, to "Fosterise" Britain. The company bid 400p a share for S&N in October, 1988, only to be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission a month later.

After a tough battle, S&N

emerged the victor in March last year when the authorities blocked the bid and ordered Elders to reduce its stake to less than 10 per cent by mid-1990.

Like many aggressive Australian companies, Elders has been forced to re-evaluate its strategy by a combination of high interest rates and heavy debts. Elders has decided to concentrate on brewing and, to a lesser extent, agribusiness.

As a result, Elders has put most of its assets up for sale and is negotiating a reshaping of its brewing empire taking Grand Metropolitan, Britain's third biggest brewer, as a partner and issuing shares in a new agribusiness company to be sold to shareholders.

Mr Elliott told institutional investors he was planning a further Aus\$0.50 cents a share capital return by December 31 once the company had sold Elders Resources.

These sources said contracts for the first three legs of the deal with GrandMet had been "finalised".

The contracts involve Elders selling 400 of Courage's managed pubs to GrandMet for £200 million; Elders and GrandMet forming a new company to hold the £2.7 billion tenanted pub estate; and Elders purchasing all or most of GrandMet's brewing for £350 million.

On March 10, several brokers tendered for the S&N stake, offering a median price of 325p a share. However, timetable problems forced Elders to postpone the sale.

The main hitch is the price

GrandMet is prepared to be seeking a lower price but Elders is holding out for at least 260p and is offering a guaranteed capital return of Aus\$0.50 cents a share by June 30.

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STOCK MARKET

Granada falls as broker prepares bearish review

By Michael Clark

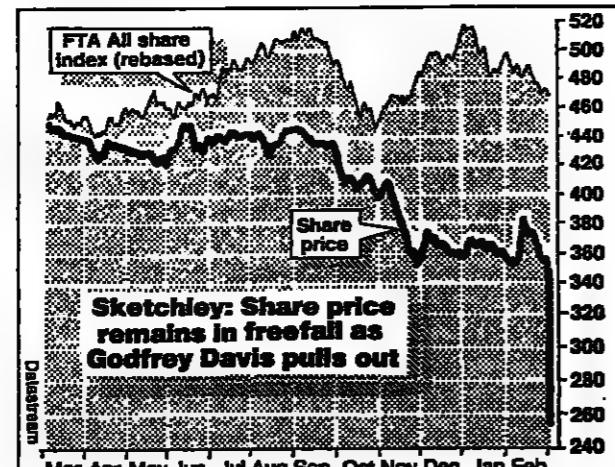
Granada, the television and motorway services group, fell sharply in after-hours trading as one big securities house prepared to publish an extensive review of the company which paints a bleak picture of prospects.

The shares ended 10p off at 285p compared with a low for the year of 267p. The review, being prepared by Kleinwort Benson, the broker, highlights a series of acquisitions by Granada which failed to live up to expectations.

Kleinwort is forecasting pre-tax profits for the current year, to September 30, of £160 million. This compares with £164 million last year. Kleinwort says that Granada is suffering from the downturn in the economy. Motorway services and bingo, which previously provided its biggest source of revenue, have already been affected. A recovery is expected next year with a profit of £178 million.

But the review is scathing about Granada's acquisition strategy. In 1986, it paid £30 million for Laskys, the electrical retailer, while selling its £106 million takeover of DPCE, the computer services group, also turned sour. Granada has made write-offs totalling £127 million and WSL, its package tour operator, is also struggling to make profits.

On top of this, Granada may decide to pay up to £175 million for a 23 per cent



Sketchley: Share price remains in freefall as Godfrey Davis pulls out

holding in British Satellite Broadcasting.

A Kleinwort spokesman said: 'It has poured a lot of shareholders' money into acquisitions which are not pay-

ing off. It is a story of jam tomorrow.'

The rest of the equity market achieved a modest rally to finish a nervous week. Sentiment was given a lift by the news that Warburg Securities was taking a bullish stance on the longer-term outlook for the market and has raised its year-end forecast for the FT-

290 level. Elders was ordered to reduce its holding in S&N by the Government following its abortive bid last year and it is believed to have suffered a substantial loss on deal. The speculators had been hoping that Elders would sell its stake to a potential bidder.

Thorn EMI rallied 12p to 692p. There had been talk that it was about to pay £750 million for Geffen Records, which is the biggest independent record producer in the US, financed by a rights issue. Mr David Geffen, who founded the company 10 years ago, has received a number of approaches but says it is not for sale.

Among the leaders, British Telecom cheapened 16p to 295p with one broker said to be urging its clients to switch to Cable and Wireless, 7p dearer at 535p. But the story appears to have little basis for truth with BT's yield continuing to attract the income funds.

Sketchley's price remained in freefall, losing a further 32p to 254p following its profit and dividend warning which prompted Godfrey Davis, the Sunlight laundry group, to withdraw its £127 million bid on Thursday. Davis fired 6p

to 144p. Its formal rejection document revealed that pre-tax profits for the year to the end of this month will tumble from £17.3 million to £6 million, even after an exceptional credit of £2.2 million. Sketchley's price has now fallen by more than 100p since the profits warning was issued. A number of powerful City institutions had already accepted the offer from Davis and will not be happy with this week's events.

But, according to some speculators, this dramatic drop in the share price, plus the poor prospects for the group, make Sketchley even more vulnerable to a bid.

Fine Art Developments, the greetings cards and mail order group, also continued to retreat, falling 12p to 218p. The group has been the subject of a number of profit downgrades by analysts this week and yesterday it announced that the pre-tax profits for the current year would be pegged at about last year's.

WALL STREET

New York (Reuters) — The Dow Jones industrial average was ahead by 3 points at 2,638.59 at the start of trading. Short covering after four days of gains helped prices to rise moderately, but the expected pre-weekend profit-taking also appeared.

The market showed little reaction to the news of no change in the US leading economic indicators. Rising shares outnumbered declining issues by more than two to one. Bonds firmed after the leading economic indicators were announced.

● Tokyo — The Nikkei index climbed 227.98 points, or 0.67 per cent, to 34,057.56 after topping 762.41 on Thursday.

Blue chips once again stole the

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Portfolio

PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add these prices to your running total for the week and check this against the weekly dividend figure on this page. If it is less than that figure, you have won outright or a share of the total weekly prize money stated. If it is less, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Code or less
1	Dewberry	Motors/Aircraft	
2	McGraw-Hill Europe	Electronics	
3	Robinson (Thomas)	Industrials L-S	
4	Boots (m)	Industrials A-D	
5	New Corp	Newspapers/Pub	
6	Ubd Biscuits (m)	Foods	
7	Jardine Math	Industrials S-K	
8	Abusine	Industrials A-D	
9	RMC Gp (m)	Building Roads	
10	Pendragon	Motors/Aircraft	
11	Harris (Philip)	Industrials S-K	
12	Portals	Industrials L-R	
13	Land Sec (m)	Property	
14	MEPC (m)	Property	
15	Country	Oil/Gas	
16	Hinchliffe Simon	Electronics	
17	LASMO (m)	Oil/Gas	
18	Brickley Inv	Industrials A-D	
19	Menkes (John)	Drapery/Stores	
20	Christies Inv	Industrials A-D	
21	Enterprise (m)	Oil/Gas	
22	Stobart	Building/Roads	
23	Lufthansa (m)	Hotels/Caterers	
24	Community Hospital	Industrials A-D	
25	Electronique France	Electronics	
26	Novartis	Industrials L-R	
27	BET Ord (m)	Industrials A-D	
28	SEPC (m)	Electronics	
29	Heywood Williams	Building Roads	
30	TT (m)	Industrials S-Z	
31	Fisons (m)	Industrials E-N	
32	Ulmann (m)	Oil/Gas	
33	Smiths Ind (m)	Industrials S-Z	
34	Westpac	Banks/Discount	
35	Unilever (m)	Industrials S-Z	
36	Williams Holdings (m)	Industrials S-Z	
37	Champion	Leisure	
38	Badger	Foods	
39	Tiptoe	Transport	
40	David (Geffrey)	Industrials A-D	
41	Southeast Prop	Property	
42	Ernest & Gm	Motors/Aircraft	
43	McKeechne	Industrials L-R	
44	GRK (m)	Industrials E-K	
50	Times Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for a week's total of £4,000 in today's newspaper.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Total

BRITISH FUNDS

1989/90	High	Low	Code	Price	Chg	Yield	Per
SHORTS (Under Five Years)							

1989/90	High	Low	Code	Price	Chg	Yield	Per
FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS							

1989/90	High	Low	Code	Price	Chg	Yield	Per
OVER FIFTEEN YEARS							

1989/90	High	Low	Code	Price	Chg	Yield	Per
UNDATED							

1989/90	High	Low	Code	Price	Chg	Yield	Per
INDEX-LINKED							

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

1989/90	High	Low	Code	Price	Chg	Yield	Per
STOCKS							

1989/90	High	Low	Code	Price	Chg	Yield	Per
STOCKS							

1989/90	High	Low	Code	Price	Chg	Yield	Per
STOCKS							

1989/90	High	Low	Code	Price	Chg	Yield	Per
STOCKS							

1989/90	High	Low	Code	Price	Chg	Yield	Per
STOCKS							

1989/90	High	Low	Code	Price	Chg	Yield	Per
STOCKS							

1989/90	High	Low	Code	Price	Chg	Yield	Per
STOCKS							

THE TIMES SATURDAY MARCH 3 1990

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Selective support

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began February 26. Dealings end March 9. \$Contango day March 12. Settlement day March 19. \$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at 4 pm. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (m) denotes Alpha Stocks.

Portfolio

PLATINUM

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WEEKLY DIVIDEND

£4,000

Claims required for +174 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

1989/90	High	Low	Code	Price	Chg	Yield	Per
1	100	98	ABP	100.00	0.00	1.00	100
2	100	98	ABP	100.00	0.00	1.00	100
3	100	98	ABP	100.00	0.00	1.00	100
4	100	98	ABP	100.00	0.00	1.00	100
5	100	98	ABP	100.00	0.00	1.00	100
6	100	98	ABP	100.00	0.00	1.00	100
7	100	98	ABP	100.00	0.00	1.00	100
8	100	98	ABP	100.00	0.00	1.00	100
9	100	98	ABP	100.00	0.00	1.00	100
10	100	98	ABP	100.00	0.00	1.00	100
11	100	98	ABP	100.00	0.00	1.00	100
12	100	98	ABP	100.00	0.00	1.00	100
13	100	98	ABP	100.00	0.00	1.00	

UNLISTED SECURITIES

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

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Edited by Jon Ashworth

INSIDE

Unlucky draw

The ABI is to study a firm which uses cash prizes to lure would-be clients. Page 24

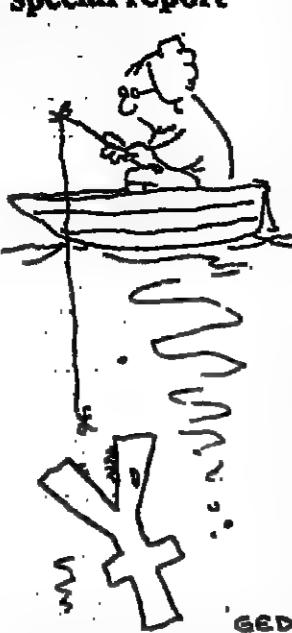
Foreign gamble

Foreign currency mortgages promise big savings but can double the losses for unlucky borrowers. Page 24

Home moan

Paying for home insurance along with the mortgage each month could add hundreds of pounds if you pay through a building society. Page 25

Unit trusts special report



How even the worst unit trust may be better than the building society. Page 25

Europe is not taken over Asia's crown as the investment sector to watch in the 1990s. Page 25

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Money unit trusts make the most of a tax loophole to give big savings to small investors. Page 31

FAMILY MONEY

Joy in life

Offshore warning in Tokyo



Dealing days: heavy losses on the Tokyo Stock Exchange took their toll on offshore funds was still 8.75 times up on its launch level in January 1986. On a launch price of \$1 per share, it peaked at \$10.90, including a dividend of 30 cents, and was trading at \$8.28 on Thursday, after a second 30

cents payout. An investment of \$5,000 at launch would have peaked at \$54,500 and been trading near \$34,400 this week. Mr Seton said: "The warrant market probably peaked in December and has

ranted. But offshore funds such as Nippon Warrant and Japan Warrant are not restricted, significantly raising the prospect of sharp gains or losses.

MIM Britannia advises clients to put no more than 10 per cent of their portfolio into Nippon Warrant, allowing an effective exposure to Japanese equities of about 35 per cent. It gives warning that investors may not get back the amount originally invested because Japanese equity warrants can be a volatile investment.

The Nikkei index peaked at 38,915 on December 29, falling to 33,829 by March 1. Analysts expect it to settle into a trading range of between 32,000 and 34,000 during the next six weeks.

Mr George Watson, Japanese Equity salesman at James Capel, the broker, said: "The market had been 'absolutely all over the place', moving as much as 3,000 points a day. He blamed a weak yen and upward pressure on interest rates.

Mr David Stewart, head of James Capel's warrants de-

partment, said the market had been due for a correction.

He expects the Nikkei to trade at between 31,000 and 36,000 before recovering, but issued a warning to investors not to expect the heady gains typical of the past two years.

He said: "The message to unit trust investors is that Japan is still going to be an extremely strong economy, and they are definitely not to panic. But they are not going to make 25 per cent a year on their investment."

The index reached 26,600 before the October 1987 Crash, falling to 21,200 by the end of the year. It had begun to rally by January 1988.

Mr Casper Luard, Japanese institutional salesman at Nomura International, blamed the recent sharp falls on a weak bond market and a split between the Bank of Japan and the Ministry of Finance over interest rate policy.

Market worries were exacerbated by futures-related arbitrage involving US houses such as Morgan Stanley and Salomon Brothers. The Nikkei 225 future expires on March 8, increasing volatility.

Mr Luard expects Tokyo to remain unstable for the next six weeks, gradually picking up from the middle of the month.

He said: "The Japanese Gross National Product is still growing at 4 per cent – faster than any other economy. A respectable return can be expected, but nothing like the gains seen in 1987/1988."

Mr Ian Vose, investment director of Morgan Grenfell Unit Trust Managers, said little headway could be expected in the next three months.

He said: "We expect the market to remain volatile, but a good manager should be able to make money." He recommends a switch from smaller companies to blue chips.

Joining the rush for fixed rates

Borrowers are falling over themselves to snap up mortgages with fixed rates well below the 15.4 per cent set by the Abbey National two weeks ago (Jon Ashworth writes).

Girobank and Firstdirect are top of the league with three-year fixed rate plans at 12.95 per cent and 12.99 per cent respectively. Barclays Bank has a two-year mortgage, pegging the rate at 13.4 per cent, while the Yorkshire and Skipton societies offer mortgages at 13.75 per cent fixed for three years.

The Yorkshire loan is in its third tranche, after the first two were snapped up in hours. A spokesman said: "We had about 1,000 applications for our 13.5 per cent two-year loan which went in 24 hours. About 1,700 people applied for the second 13.95 per cent loan, and the new one is going very quickly."

The society set aside £50 million for each of the earlier issues. The Skipton, which launches its 13.75 per cent three-year loan on Monday, said early interest had been high.

A spokesman said: "The branches think it will sell very quickly and very well. It may not be such a good deal at the end of three years, but people are prepared to take a small amount of risk."

The Skipton has set aside £50 million to begin with, but may increase it depending on the response. The minimum loan is £20,000.

National & Provincial has a three-year fixed rate mortgage at 13.85 per cent. The Leeds Permanent's 13.35 per cent three-year plan has sold out.

Unit trust ombudsman with plenty to complain about

By Barbara Ellis

Unit trust investors who wish to complain about poor service may face a frustrating time, according to the unit trust ombudsman.

Since the ombudsman scheme was set up just over a year ago, only 50 of the 160 unit trust companies have joined it. Complaints about non-members have to be referred to regulators like The Securities Association, so increasing the chance of delays.

Disputes at this muddle caused the first unit trust ombudsman to quit after only a few months. But this week his successor, Mr Adrian Parsons, cheerfully claimed that nobody was being allowed to slip through the net.

Business has been slow for unit trusts and in its first 15 months the ombudsman has handled just 45 cases, deciding six in favour of complainants,

and ordering one company to pay out £1,000 – well short of the £100,000 maximum allowed under the scheme.

"At the moment, each complaint costs us more than it should," said Mr Parsons. "It's like a company. It will take a year or two to become cost-effective."

But lack of enthusiasm from the unit trust companies could put a damper on long-term plans. Mr Tony Smith, chief executive of the Unit Trust Association, said that almost all unit trust management groups were members of the Investment Managers Regulatory Organization and pay for a referee scheme through their subscription.

"They are reluctant to pay yet again for the unit trust ombudsman," he said, suggesting that if Imro reduced its subscription this would be an

incentive for companies to join the ombudsman scheme.

Noting that misunderstandings were the prime cause of disputes, Mr Parsons suggested an additional warning for publicity material, to say that unit trusts were not suitable for short-term investment.

He also suggested that unit trust companies be allowed to stop printing "cancellation" prices on their contract notes, since these bear no relation to what an investor would get if the deal were cancelled – they record the price at which the group itself cancel units.

Asked whether he would favour the idea of grading unit trusts by degree of risk, as recommended by the Securities and Investment Board, Mr Parsons said he had not really thought about it: "I am very new to this work," he said.

The salesmen who mix business with pressure

Investors have been warned not to part with their money just because an annual deadline is looming on the calendar. "Buy now before it's too late" is a familiar cry at the Budget and new tax year draw nearer. But investors who are pressured into buying may kick themselves later on.

A combination of the Budget on March 20 and the fiscal year-end on April 5 has swelled the yearly ritual of "deadline selling". Sedgwick's Financial Services, part of the Sedgwick's insurance group, has warned investors to look at their needs and objectives first before rushing into any decisions.

"A lot of people are encouraging a lemming-like frenzy," says Mr David

Blundell, marketing director of the company's personal financial management division. "Quite a few people will be buying because of a deadline even though it may not always suit their circumstances."

Personal Equity Plans, Business Expansion Schemes and free-standing Additional Voluntary Contributions are frequently sold on the back of a specific deadline. Investors may also be urged to contract out of Serps – the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme – before April 5 or take out life assurance before a change in legislation.

"Forceful deadline selling does not serve the interests of any financial institution," says Mr Blundell.

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PORTFOLIO

For readers who may have missed a copy of The Times this week, we repeat below the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 21):

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
1 +1 -6 +6 +3 -2	2 +1 +2 +7 +6 +1	3 +5 +4 +5 +4 +3	4 +1 +1 +6 +5 +4 +6	5 +7 +3 +4 +4 +2	6 +1 +1 +8 +5 +2	7 +2 +8 +3 +3 +4
8 +1 +7 +4 +3 +2	9 +6 +3 +4 +3 +1	10 +3 +2 +3 +3 +5	11 +2 +1 +5 +2 +4	12 +7 +3 +3 +2 +2	13 +2 +2 +2 +2 +3	14 +2 +3 +7 +5 +1
15 +1 +5 +8 +2 +3	16 +5 +8 +4 +3 +2	17 +2 +6 +4 +4 +3	18 +7 +3 +3 +5 +1	19 +1 +3 +7 +5 +1	20 +1 +5 +6 +3 +3	21 +5 +8 +4 +5 +2
22 +1 +2 +8 +5 +1	23 +2 +2 +3 +3 +2	24 +1 +2 +6 +6 +1	25 +1 +6 +4 +4 +2	26 +5 +6 +5 +4 +2	27 +2 +2 +3 +2 +2	28 +2 +1 +6 +7 +1
29 +2 +7 +5 +3 +2	30 +1 +2 +8 +7 +1	31 +5 +5 +3 +5 +1	32 +2 +2 +7 +5 +2	33 +1 +3 +2 +3 +5	34 +1 +5 +5 +4 +3	35 +1 +8 +4 +3 +2
36 +2 +1 +2 +4 +3	37 +1 +3 +7 +7 +2	38 +1 +3 +4 +4 +4	39 +5 +5 +4 +3 +3	40 +2 +1 +3 +3 +2	41 +2 +5 +6 +3 +2	42 +5 +2 +5 +4 +3
43 +1 +2 +3 +3 +2	44 +1 +2 +3 +3 +1					

The Equitable



£65,152

Average



£57,838

Worst Company



£43,776

Personal pension fund from 20 year with-profits policy, annual contribution of £500 as published by Planned Savings July 1989. Figures refer to a self-employed man aged 65 retiring 1 April 1989.

Source: Planned Savings July 1989

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*Planned Savings Survey of regular contribution, 20 year, with-profits personal pensions – July 1989



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FAMILY MONEY

ABI questions prize-linked sales

Tony Hetherington investigates the selling of accident cover through a mailshot scheme which demands that winners of prizes sign a direct debit before they can claim their cash prize

The watchdog Association of British Insurers is to investigate the sales methods of Hospital Plan Insurance Services, a firm of intermediaries which promotes an accident insurance scheme through mailshots offering cash prizes.

Hospital Plan, which is based in Baker Street in central London, regularly issues thousands of "winners certificates" which inform the recipient that a lucky number was entered in a draw without their knowledge, and that they have won a prize of between £5 and £60,000.

To discover how much, and to claim the prize, the recipient must sign a form asking to inspect a policy from the New Hampshire Insurance Company, which provides cover

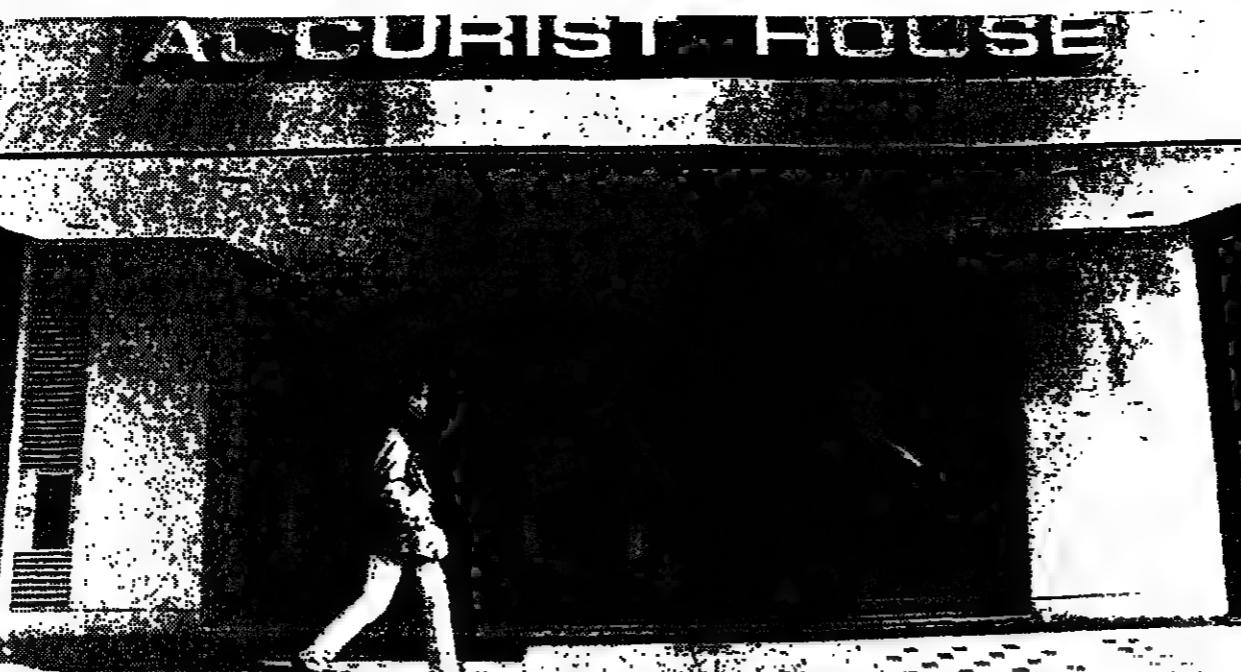
against serious accidental injury such as the loss of a limb, or one's eyesight.

In addition, the recipient must also complete a direct debit form for payment of premiums of between £3.95 and £14.50 per month.

According to ABI officials, the organization's code of conduct for the selling of insurance says that prospective customers should be able to inspect the policy terms before paying any premium.

Hospital Plan claims it complies with this rule by not cashing the direct debit until after the policy has been sent to the client, who then has a short period within which to decide whether to cancel.

But a complainant in Salisbury, Wiltshire, says that in



Prizes galore: Accurist House, in Baker Street, central London, the headquarters of Hospital Plan Insurance Services

practice, if winners wait until they receive their prize, the debit form will be sent to their bank by Hospital Plan.

"However, what actually happened was that the prize, which was £5, arrived one day and I cancelled the direct debit the following day. Too late!

could then be cancelled as soon as the prize cheque arrived," he said.

"As there was a guaranteed prize of at least £5, it seemed worth taking a few minutes to fill out the direct debit, which

When my bank statement arrived, £3.95 had already been extracted. Hospital Plan presumably believes people won't cause a fuss because they would take up too much space. 'If we sent out policy details with the prize letter, the poor reader would have to study four sheets setting out the terms,'

Hospital Plan says it does

said Mr Paul Brett, a Hospital Plan director. He added that the prize draw was perfectly genuine, and that winners could claim their prize without having to complete the direct debit form. "If anyone wants the prize without the insurance policy, he need only alter the form to this effect," he said.

However, Mr Ted Carter, a prize winner in Newbury, Berkshire, refused this. He returned his prize claim form, agreeing to inspect the policy, but did not complete the direct debit for payment of premiums. He then received a pre-printed letter signed by Mr Brett emphasising the need for the direct debit to be completed.

"Kindly post the suitably completed form in the reply-paid envelope," said the letter. "After the expiry date, not only will we send you the cash prize that your number has won, but more importantly, by return of post, you will also have the opportunity to examine without commitment or obligation a most worthwhile and welcome way to protect yourself against the real risks in life."

Mr Carter, who is supplying the Association of British Insurers with copies of his

correspondence with Hospital Plan, said this week that he takes "a very dim view" of the company's sales methods.

"Their letter makes it quite clear that the signing of the debit part of the form is a prerequisite for those who wish to claim the prize," he said.

Mr Paul Brett's brother, Mr Ernie Brett, who is also a director of Hospital Plan, said he knew nothing about the pre-printed letter issued to people who attempted to claim a prize without completing the direct debit. A cheque for £5 would be sent to Mr Carter, he said.

Mr Malcolm Tarling, an ABI spokesman, said he would be contacting New Hampshire Insurance to discuss the methods used by Hospital Plan to promote the company's accident cover.

He said: "It is not reasonable to expect anybody to enter into a contract without knowing what they are getting into. To ask anyone to sign anything without first providing them with information regarding the contract is strange, and for an insurance company to accept someone on risk without having a proposal form, again is unusual. It is unlike anything I have come across."

Foreign currency home loans are only for the brave

By Jon Ashworth

The latest surge in interest rates may encourage homeowners to consider foreign currency mortgages which promise lower interest rates. But early savings can quickly turn into horrific losses — as many investors have found to their cost.

Locking into a single foreign currency can be a recipe for disaster. A multiple currency loan which allows home-owners to play the money markets is a better bet, but is only really of use to those who can afford to take a loss.

Robert Fraser, the banking and finance group, runs a multiple currency mortgage for clients with £50,000 or more to spare. Switching between currencies can slash the cost of interest payments, provided the timing is right.

Over five years, a perfect portfolio would have saved £17,665 in interest on a £100,000 mortgage, and reduced the debt by £33,000.

The Daniels Group, a London broker, has launched a managed currency mortgage for loans of at least £175,000. The funds for the loan, available over 25 years, are managed in a number of currencies to keep the interest rate as low

BRIEFINGS

■ One in three married couples could miss out on the chance to save hundreds of pounds this tax year, according to Gallup. The poll, carried out for Fannell Kerr Foster, the accountant, showed 28 per cent of married people knew nothing about the arrival of independent taxation. One in five married people

expected to pay more tax because of the change.

■ Thinking About Money is a new leaflet from Help the Aged, designed to help elderly people manage their money in a practical way. The leaflet, sponsored by Barclays Bank, has some tips on budgeting along with advice on credit, debt and savings. It is free of charge from Help the Aged, Citizens' Advice Bureaux and public libraries.

■ The arrival of twins may no longer be an expensive surprise: Eagle Star promises "cash on delivery" to hopeful parents. The Twins policy will pay out up to £2,000 tax-free in the event of a multiple birth. Premiums start at £25 and must be paid at least six months before the expected date of birth.

■ Baker Tilly has published two tax planning updates for couples. One looks at capital gains, inheritance and income tax, the other at taxation of company cars, wife's earnings, payments to charities and BES investments.

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FAMILY MONEY

Nick Mathiason uncovers a dear way of paying for insurance

A burden on home cover

Homeowners could be paying too much for their buildings and contents insurance from building societies if their policy is not debited monthly along with their mortgage.

Both the Halifax and the Bradford & Bingley have confirmed they charge interest on home and contents insurance at approaching 32 per cent. This figure is reached by combining the current average mortgage rate of 15.4 per cent plus an Annual Percentage Rate (APR) of about 16.7 per cent.

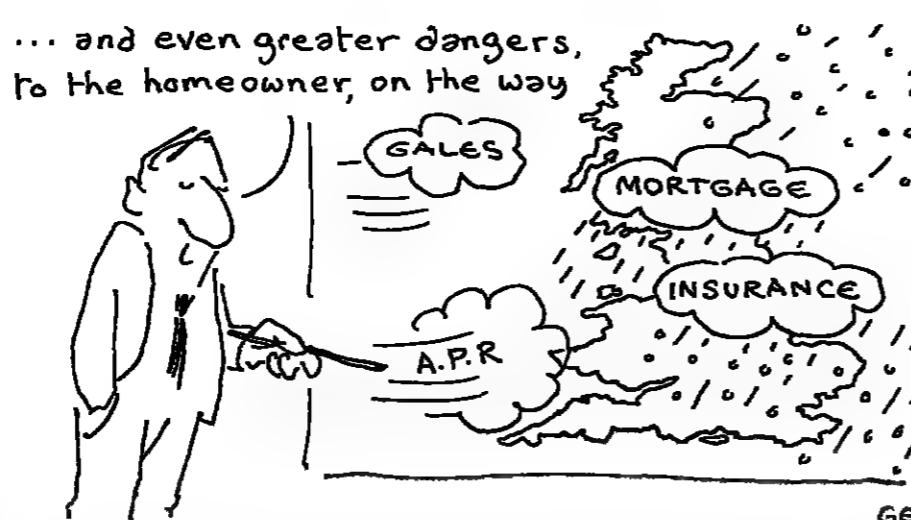
So a homeowner would find himself paying interest at 15.4 per cent on his total monthly mortgage and household insurance outlay. He would also have the added burden of an APR on his insurance.

According to Mr John Brownhill, chairman of Brownhill, Morris and West, a London insurance broker, the result is that the public can face premiums of up to £1200 per year which are "double what they should be paying."

Mr Brownhill is concerned that there are thousands of people in this situation.

He said: "We see this sort of thing all the time and I think it's quite scandalous. It's fine if the public is aware of this but very often, they're not. These people are merely money lenders but they're selling policies which are grossly inflated."

He added: "It might seem easier to pay your insurance



together with your mortgage but with so many people in mortgage arrears, inflated policies are simply adding to the problem."

The British Insurance and Investment Broker's Association (BIIIBA) has urged all consumers to tread warily when taking up buildings and contents insurance with building societies.

A spokesman explained: "Most building societies offer borrowers a variety of alternative ways of spreading the cost of household insurance over the year."

"They also provide a further alternative which is to add the premium to the monthly mortgage payment," he added. "BIIIBA strongly

recommends the public to avoid this option which is extremely expensive, especially in the current atmosphere of high interest rates."

"We paid out the premiums like a lamb," explained one disgruntled customer of the Bradford & Bingley.

"But when I saw how much the premiums were rising after every year, I became very concerned. We were paying about £1200. I realise it was partly our negligence for not looking into the matter but we were just unaware of the exact nature of the policy," he added.

But a spokesman for the Building Societies Association had little consolation for worried customers.

He added: "It might seem easier to pay your insurance

Baring their souls — by post

With more than 1,300 unit trusts on the market, independent salesmen who are supposed to survey them all before recommending any should be eager for short cuts.

Or so Mr Alan Kelly, the managing director of Grant Thornton Personal Financial Planning, would seem to think.

He recently sent invitations to 18,000 financial advisers to subscribe £1,950 a year for his *Unitrends* unit trust handbook, with recommendations for 100 selected funds.

Mr Kelly makes much of his close relationship with fund managers, asking in his promotional material: "Why do the fund managers agree to bare their souls to me?... because we have invested so much money for clients that managers know we're big potential business procedures. "I try to assess the manager's philosophy. I have to be confident that even if a unit trust has performed well in the past, it will continue to do so in the future.

"Anyone can look at statistics, but it

could be that those results were achieved by another fund manager altogether," he adds.

Of three fund managers named in the handbook approached at random, one recalled meeting Mr Kelly over a number of years and expressed respect for his thorough questioning.

The second recalled meeting him over lunch, but denied that he had been seen as a big business prospect.

"Nobody is these days. "We will see anybody for an hour or so, provided they are from a respectable house and if it's not too often," he said.

The third manager, Mr David Felder of Kleinwort Benson Gilt Yield Trust, said that he had not met Mr Kelly. "Perhaps he has not got round to me yet," he suggested.

Mr Kelly said that he relies on questionnaires as well as personal interviews and had received a completed form from Kleinwort Benson.

His handbook comment on Mr Felder was: "A fund manager has considerable

back-up in the form of several fixed-interest managers and dealers. "I don't think you could say less of any fund manager in the City," said Mr Felder.

Although Mr Kelly stresses that: "It is simply not enough to rely on the funds' own publicity machines," he delivers a number of blindingly glowing opinions, ranging from "manager clearly has exceptional ability" to "appears to have exceptional ability" while "considerable ability" seems to be slightly lower down the scale.

But brokers who pay up for the Grant Thornton service will not be receiving the full story, according to Mr Kelly.

He explains that because of the confidential and sensitive nature of much of the information he acquires at meetings and discussions with fund managers, "it would often not be judicious to state everything in writing."

Still, he says that the information is reflected in his recommendations.

Barbara Ellis

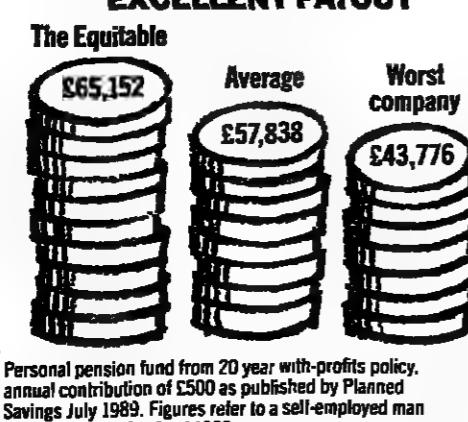
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Source: *Planned Savings* July 1989.

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1975	£2,896	£1,816
1980	£12,144	£3,192
1985	£33,848	£5,693
29 DEC '89	£93,384	£8,652*

NOTES All figures include reinvested gross income. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Recovery figures are all realisation values. An investment of £1,000 in M&G Recovery Fund on 31st December 1984 would have grown to £3,314 by 29th December 1989. Trustee: Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited. *Estimated.

M&G EXTRA YIELD

Designed for investors whose primary requirement is an above average and increasing income. The Fund's objective is to provide a yield about 60% higher than that of the FT Actuaries All-Share Index. It invests principally in the ordinary shares of UK companies.

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G EXTRA YIELD	BUILDING SOCIETY
19 Nov '73	£1,000	£1,000
1975	£1,360	£1,250
1980	£2,954	£2,198
1985	£10,032	£3,919
29 DEC '89	£25,276	£5,956*

NOTES All figures include reinvested gross income. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Extra Yield figures are all realisation values. An investment of £1,000 in M&G Extra Yield Fund on 31st December 1984 would have grown to £2,940 by 29th December 1989. Trustee: Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited. *Estimated.

PRICES AND YIELDS

On 29th December 1989 the offered prices and estimated gross current yields were

Acc.	Yield	Spread	Max Units	Spread
Recovery	959.9p	4.33%	5,449	7.50%
Dividend	2265.5p	5.24%	5,449	7.06%
Second	2369.7p	3.91%	5,669	7.68%
Extra Yield	951.2p	5.35%	5,449	7.05%
Smaller Companies	1971.5p	3.47%	5,449	8.97%
Midland	2958.8p	4.73%	5,449	8.04%

*Accumulation units were also divided 20:1 on 12th February 1990.

HOW THE PLAN WORKS

LUMP SUM ONLY You can invest from £1,200 to £2,400 by cheque in any one tax year.

The whole of each contribution is invested in Accumulation units of the M&G unit trust you choose at the applicable offer price. Certificates are not issued in respect of the M&G PEP.

The net income earned on your investment in the fund is automatically reinvested, increasing the value of your units. Income tax is reclaimed on your behalf by M&G once a year and used to buy further units for you.

Although you are always the beneficial owner of your units, they will be registered in the name of M&G Financial Services Limited, the registered PEP manager and a member of IMRO. Your rights as a planholder are defined by the Terms and Conditions of The M&G Unit Trust Personal Equity Plan set out later.

UNIT PRICES

The "offer" price (at which units are bought from the unit trust manager) and the "bid" price (at which units are sold to the unit trust manager) are calculated every day by M&G Securities Limited under rules laid down by statutory regulations.

The prices of M&G unit trusts are usually worked out every morning as at 9.15 a.m. Units will normally be allocated to your plan at the offer price calculated after the Plan Manager has received your contribution.

CHARGES

There are no extra charges for an M&G PEP. All costs are absorbed within the normal charges of the unit trusts. The management charges on M&G unit trusts are a maximum of 5 per cent initially and 1 per cent annually. The management charges may only be increased with the consent of unitholders.

The Managers' annual charge, Trustee's fees currently 0.05% (in the case of Second General 0.05% on the first £20 million and 0.04% thereafter) (plus VAT) and Registrars' fees currently 0.08% (plus VAT) based on the Fund's mid-market value are deducted from gross income pro-rata on the first day of each Stock Exchange Account. The Managers' annual charge is 1% except for Dividend and Extra Yield which is 3% (which may increase to 1% upon three months notice to unitholders).

STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Twice each year we will send you a statement of

your account made up to 5 April and 5 October. This will show the transactions on your account during, and the number of units held and their value at the end of each period.

We shall also send you regular Managers' reports on the unit trust in which you are building up your investment. These give a commentary on the progress of the trust, set out the full portfolio of shares, and give the accounts of the trust.

HOW CAN I WITHDRAW MY MONEY

When you wish to sell your holding, or part of it, you have only to write to M&G Financial Services Limited, Planned Savings Department, M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. We will then send you a cheque for the full bid value of the units you are cashing in, normally within a few days. Only written instructions will be accepted.

In due course we shall have available a system of regular automatic payments into your bank account.

CHOOSING YOUR UNIT TRUST

Because of the investment regulations governing unit trust PEPs, the choice of M&G funds available for our PEP has been restricted to six funds investing predominantly in UK ordinary shares. These funds offer a choice between high-yielding income funds, lower yielding capital growth funds and funds aiming for a balance between income and growth. All six funds have impressive performance records.

Each fund is managed by M&G Securities Limited,

You should however bear in mind that the value of your investment may go down as well as up.

As a unit trust only PEP the M&G PEP is limited to £2,400 a year and is not suitable for investors who wish to make use of the full £4,800 limit for a PEP investing directly in shares or a mixture of shares and unit trusts.

In order to make use of your 1989/90 PEP allowance your application **must** be received by the first post on Thursday April 5th. Applications received after then will be returned.

M&G DIVIDEND

Designed for investors whose primary requirement is an above average and increasing income. The Fund's objective is to provide a yield about 50% higher than that of the FT Actuaries All-Share Index. It invests in a wide selection of ordinary shares, mainly in the UK.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. Value of £1,000 invested at the launch of M&G Dividend Fund on 6th May 1964, with gross income reinvested.

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G DIVIDEND	BUILDING SOCIETY
6 May '64	£1,000	£1,000
1965	£1,112	£1,106
1970	£1,606	£1,606
1975	£3,460	£2,562
1980	£7,806	£4,504
1985	£30,030	£8,031
29 DEC '89	£71,424	£12,206*

NOTES All figures include reinvested gross income. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Dividend figures are all realisation values. An investment of £1,000 in M&G Dividend Fund on 31st December 1984 would have grown to £2,840 by 29th December 1989. Trustee: Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited. *Estimated.

M&G SECOND GENERAL

The Fund's objective is consistent long-term growth of both income and capital. It may invest in any section of British industry or commerce and may include a proportion of overseas holdings. It aims to produce a yield in line with that of the FT Actuaries All-Share Index.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. Value of £1,000 invested at the launch of M&G Second General Fund on 5th June 1956, with gross income reinvested.

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G SECOND	BUILDING SOCIETY
5 June '56	£1,000	£1,000
1960	£2,102	£1,298
1965	£3,617	£1,742
1970	£5,865	£2,529
1975	£10,748	£4,036
1980	£28,516	£7,095
1985	£84,920	£12,652
29 DEC '89	£178,098	£19,228*

NOTES All figures include reinvested gross income. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Second General figures are all realisation values. An investment of £1,000 in M&G Second General on 31st December 1984 would have grown to £2,432 by 29th December 1989. Trustee: Lloyds Bank PLC. *Estimated.

M&G SMALLER COMPANIES

Designed to provide an investment in smaller companies, where good management can have most impact on earnings. The market in shares of smaller companies can be narrow and the share prices volatile, but investment in such shares can offer prospects of above average capital growth. A proportion of the Fund may be invested in the U.S.M. and unquoted securities. Yield is not a major factor and can be expected to be less than that provided by the FT Actuaries All-Share Index.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. Value of £1,000 invested at the launch of M&G Smaller Companies Fund on 27th September 1967, with gross income reinvested.

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G SMALLER COMPANIES	BUILDING SOCIETY
27 Sept '67	£1,000	£1,000
1970	£1,402	£1,289
1975	£2,094	£2,056
1980	£7,818	£3,614
1985	£19,860	£6,445
29 DEC '89	£45,824	£9,795*

NOTES All figures include reinvested gross income. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Smaller Companies figures are all realisation values. An investment of £1,000 in M&G Smaller Companies Fund on 31st December 1984 would have grown to £2,510 by 29th December 1989. Trustee: Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited. *Estimated.

M&G MIDLAND & GENERAL

Invests in industrial and commercial companies, with particular emphasis on smaller companies operating in the Midlands and other regional centres. The Fund's objective is to produce steady growth of both income and capital, with a yield about 25% higher than the FT Actuaries All-Share Index.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. Value of £1,000 invested at the launch of M&G Midland & General Fund on 19th June 1956, with gross income reinvested.

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G MIDLAND
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TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1 DEFINITIONS

(1) "Business Day" means a day on which the Managers of an IMRO that Trust make a price for the purchase and sale of Units.
 "Conditions" means these Terms and Conditions together with the application form as from time to time amended in accordance with the provisions hereof.
 "Crown Employee" means a person holding an office or employment under the Crown which is of a public nature and the emoluments of which are payable out of the public revenue of the United Kingdom or of Northern Ireland.
 "IMRO" means the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation Limited.
 "IMRO Company" means M&G Financial Services Limited and any other company which is a subsidiary or holding company of it or which is a subsidiary of any such holding company for which purpose the expressions "subsidiary" and "holding company" have the same meanings as in section 736 of the Companies Act 1985.
 "Nominee" means any person designated by the Plan Manager under Condition 9 and may be an Associate of the Plan Manager.
 "Ordinary Shares" means ordinary shares, not being shares in an investment trust, issued by a company which is incorporated in the United Kingdom and quoted on the official list of a recognised Stock Exchange in the United Kingdom or dealt in on the United Securities Market.

"PEP Unit Trust" before 6th April 1990 means a Unit Trust and on and after 6th April 1990 means a Unit Trust in respect of which at least 75% in value of the investments (for the purposes of the Treasury Regulations) subject to the trusts thereof are investments which can be counted towards satisfaction of any statutory test for determining whether units in the Unit Trust will be qualifying investments for the purpose of the Treasury Regulations and for this purpose

(a) it shall be assumed that the Units are held in a Personal Equity Plan into which the Planholder has contributed one half of the subscription limit under the Treasury Regulations, and

(b) investments which are units in a Unit Trust or shares in an investment trust (as defined in the Treasury Regulations) shall be counted to the extent that the investments held in the Unit Trust or investment trust could be so counted if held directly by the Unit Trust.

"Plan" means a Personal Equity Plan effected under these Conditions by a Qualifying Individual.

"Planholder" means an individual who has opened a Plan under these Conditions.

"Plan Manager" means M&G Financial Services Limited.
 "Qualifying Individual" means an individual, aged 18 years or over, who has not (subject to the exception prescribed by the 1989 Treasury Regulations as regards rights issued) subscribed to any other Personal Equity Plan for the Year or any of the Years for or in respect of which he makes an application to open a Plan under these Conditions, and who is either resident and ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom or, although non-resident in the United Kingdom, performs duties as a Crown Employee which are treated as being performed in the United Kingdom.

"1989 Treasury Regulations" means the regulations for Personal Equity Plans made on 14th March 1989 and any other regulations made from time to time by HM Treasury under the provisions of s. 333 and Schedule 29 to the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 and s. 149 D of the Capital Gains Tax Act 1973.

"Units" means Units in a Unit Trust held in a Plan and any fractions or decimals thereto (to the nearest one hundredth of a Unit above).
 "Unit Trust" means a unit trust scheme which is an authorised securities scheme as defined in the Authorised Unit Trust Scheme (Investment and Borrowing Powers) Regulations 1988 the manager of which is an IMRO company in the case of which an order under Section 78 of the Financial Services Act 1986 is in force.

"Year" means a year beginning on 6th April in any year and ending with 5th April in the following year.

(2) References to any statutory provision or to regulations made thereunder include any modification or re-enactment thereof.

(3) References to gender shall be taken to refer to either gender.

(4) Headings are included for the purpose of guidance and are not part of these Conditions.

(5) The application form shall be treated as part of these Conditions and in case of conflict shall have precedence.

2 INTRODUCTION

(1) The Plan Manager is a member of IMRO and is such is regulated by IMRO in the conduct of its Investment Business.
 (2) The Plan Manager agrees to act as such in relation to all Plans covered by the application form.

(3) The Plan Manager will from time to time make Units (whether Income Units or Accumulation Units) in Unit Trusts available for the purposes of Plans effected under these Conditions.

(4) Subject to these Conditions the investment objective of the Planholder shall be taken to be to invest in the M&G Unit Trust indicated by the Planholder in his application form.

3 APPLICATIONS TO OPEN A PLAN

(1) The Condition applies to applications to open a Plan made under the 1989 Treasury Regulations. In order to open a Plan, an individual must be a Qualifying Individual and must submit to the Plan Manager a duly completed application form and must sign the declaration set out in the form. The Applicant must also submit a cheque for an amount not in excess of the maximum permitted by law for that particular Year.

NOTES TO HELP YOU IN COMPLETING THE M&G UNIT TRUST PEP APPLICATION FORM

Note 1 Please give your daytime telephone number so that if a query arises in relation to your form we can contact you at once and speed up the processing of your application. No salesmen will call.
Note 2 National Insurance Number (NINO). If you are a married woman you should supply your own NINO and if you know them, your own tax district and reference number. You should NOT supply those of your husband. An applicant who cannot supply a NINO may obtain one from the DSS using either form CF8 if a NINO is required for the first time or form CF88 if the NINO issued has been lost or cannot be remembered. These forms can only be obtained from DSS offices. A National Pension Number, where applicable, is an acceptable alternative if you are unable to provide a NINO. A National Health Number is NOT acceptable.

Note 3 The application form is designed to allow you to contribute to your M&G PEP tax year after tax year without having to complete a new application form. In the case of a form such as this which allows for contributions to be made year after year it is necessary to include these continuing declarations. You can stop contributing to your M&G PEP at any time. If you delete the wording in the form where indicated then your M&G PEP will not automatically continue in the subsequent tax year and these declarations will only apply to the period ending 5th April 1990. If you subsequently wish to contribute to your M&G PEP in future tax years, you will need to complete a new application form.

Note 4 Your M&G PEP is invested in Accumulation units. Certificates are not issued in respect of the M&G PEP. Details of your investment will be shown in the acknowledgement which will be sent to you once your application has been accepted. It is therefore important that you retain the acknowledgement for your records. Please also retain the Terms and Conditions set out above.

Correctly completed application forms and cheques must be received at our Chelmsford Office by first post on 5th April 1990 to qualify for the 1989/90 tax year. Applications received on this form after that time will be returned.

LITERATURE

To: The M&G Group, M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. Tel: (0245) 266266. (Business Hours).

Please send me a free copy of the M&G Year Book.

Mr/Mrs/ Miss	INITIALS	SURNAME
ADDRESS		
POSTCODE		ECGJ

THE M&G UNIT TRUST PERSONAL EQUITY PLAN

(2) The Plan comes into force when the Planholder's application for the Plan has been accepted by the Plan Manager.
 (3) For this purpose the application will be treated as having been accepted (a) if the Plan Manager does not postpone acceptance of the application under any regulatory provisions.
 (b) on receipt by the Plan Manager of a duly completed application form together with a cheque in respect of the cash subscription if they are received first post OR
 (c) on the day following receipt by the Plan Manager of a duly completed application form together with a cheque in respect of the cash subscription if they are received second post, and
 (d) if the Plan Manager sends a notice to the applicant that he intends to accept the application not earlier than any specified day following posting of the notice, on that specified day.

(4) Unless the Applicant indicates otherwise in his application form, the form will be taken to authorise contributions to be made to the Plan for each Year beginning in the Year in which the application is made unless and until either the Planholder or the Plan Manager notifies the other in writing to the contrary. The Plan will be governed by these Conditions, as varied in accordance with Condition 1 below.

4 CONTRIBUTIONS

(1) Except as permitted by law a Planholder may contribute to only one Personal Equity Plan each Year.
 (2) A total of not more than the maximum permitted by law for a particular Year can be contributed to a Plan during that Year.
 (3) Contributions must be of an amount of the Planholder's cash paid directly to the Plan Manager.
 (4) If at any time a Planholder ceases to be a Qualifying Individual he shall not thereafter make any contributions to a Plan.

5 CHOICE OF UNIT TRUST

(1) Subject to this Condition, the Planholder's contributions will be applied by the Plan Manager in the purchase of Units of the Unit Trust which the Planholder has selected in his application form.
 (2) With effect from a date to be determined by the Plan Manager and notified to Planholders, the Planholder may by written notice to the Plan Manager (or a length to be determined by the Plan Manager in its notice) direct that future contributions to the Plan shall be applied by the Plan Manager in the purchase of Units other than the Units specified in the application form.
 (3) From a date to be determined by the Plan Manager and notified to Planholders the Planholder may by written notice to the Plan Manager (or a length to be determined by the Plan Manager in its notice) direct that Units in the Plan should be sold and the proceeds of sale applied in the purchase of other Units.
 (4) This Condition does not apply to the application of any contribution if, at the time the purchase is to be made, the Unit Trust is not a PEP Unit Trust. In these circumstances Units in the M&G Dividend Fund or the M&G Midland & General Fund will be purchased as described in Condition 6 below.

6 INVESTMENT

(1) The following, namely:
 (a) contributions received from Planholders;
 (b) tax repayments received in respect of the Units;
 (c) the proceeds of sale of any Units;
 (d) any income and distributions from Units and cash deposits held in the Plan;
 (e) any sums received on the termination (otherwise than by way of reconstruction or amalgamation) of a Unit Trust.
 will be credited to a sterling account maintained by the Plan Manager with any authorised institution within the meaning of the Banking Act 1987 and will be applied by the Plan Manager:
 (i) within ten days of being received and
 (ii) at all times in accordance with the 1989 Treasury Regulations but (iii) not unless Condition 6 (2) and (3) permit the purchase of Units or further Units in a PEP Unit Trust.
 In the purchase of Units or further Units in accordance with the following paragraphs.

(2) The Plan Manager will apply all such amounts in the purchase of Units selected by the Planholder in accordance with Condition 5 above, so long as the Unit Trust in which the investment is to be made continues to be a PEP Unit Trust. If at any time the Unit Trust ceases to be a PEP Unit Trust, the Plan Manager will apply all such amounts in the purchase of Accumulation Units in the M&G Dividend Fund provided that it is a PEP Unit Trust at the time when the purchase is to be made, but if it is not then a PEP Unit Trust, in the purchase of Accumulation Units in the M&G Midland & General Fund provided that it is then a PEP Unit Trust.
 (3) If at any time a Plan includes Units in a Unit Trust which is not a PEP Unit Trust, the Units will be sold and the proceeds dealt with in accordance with Condition 6 (1) and (2) above.
 (4) All purchases and sales of Units will be made by the Plan Manager at the applicable offer price or bid price of the particular Unit Trust.

7 TAX REIMBURSEMENTS

The Plan Manager will make all necessary claims for repayment of tax relating to the Units in accordance with the Treasury Regulations.

8 GENERAL OWNERSHIP

(1) The Planholder will at all times be the beneficial owner of the Units and of any rights and cash sums from time to time held in the Plan.
 (2) Without prejudice to the generality of (1) above, the Planholder will not dispose of or transfer any interest in such Units or any such cash sums, and will not create (or have outstanding) any charge or security on or over any such Units or any such cash sums.

9 REGISTRATION OF UNITS

(1) Units will be registered in the name of the Plan Manager or, if the Plan Manager so designates, in the name of a Nominee.
 (2) The Planholder hereby authorises the Plan Manager to issue all such directions and instructions to any Nominee as the Plan Manager considers appropriate for the discharge of the Plan Manager's responsibilities under these Conditions and accepts that the Plan Manager will not be responsible for the defaults of the Nominee.
 (3) All documents of or evidencing title in respect of the Units and any cash will be held by or to the order of the Plan Manager.
 (4) Units may not be lent to any third party and no borrowing may be made against the security of Units.

10 PLANHOLDER'S RIGHTS

The Plan Manager will arrange for the Planholder to be sent the annual accounts of the Unit Trust or each Unit Trust, Units in which are held in the Plan, together with the reports issued by the Managers of each Unit Trust.

11 VOTING RIGHTS ATTACHING TO UNITS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

(1) The Planholder may by an appropriate indication in the space provided in the application form elect:

(a) to attend meetings of Unitholders of the Unit Trust, Units in which are held in the Plan, and
 (b) to exercise voting rights attaching to such Units, and
 (c) to receive any information issued to Unitholders in addition to the documents referred to in Condition 11 above
 until the election is withdrawn by written notice given by the Planholder to the Plan Manager.

12 STATEMENTS

(1) The Period of Account for the purposes of this Condition will be the six months ending on 5th October and 5th April in every Year, and for each such period in which he is required to do so by the rules of IMRO the Plan Manager will send to the Planholder a Plan Statement prepared by reference to the last day in that period. The first Period of Account shall commence when the first contribution is made and will end on the commencement of the next complete Period of Account.

(2) The Plan Statement will include all the information which the Plan Manager is required to give by the 1989 Treasury Regulations and the rules of IMRO.

(3) In relation to the purchase or disposal of Units the Plan Statement will include all the information which the Plan Manager would have had to include in contract notes under the IMRO Rules had contract notes been sent to the Planholder under the IMRO Rules.

(4) The Plan Manager will, if the Planholder requests it to do so give sight of, and supply to the Planholder copies of, all entries in its books relating to the Plan.

13 INFORMATION FOR PLAN MANAGER

(1) The Planholder will supply the Plan Manager with all information which the Plan Manager reasonably requires for the purposes of the Plan, and in particular will promptly inform the Plan Manager of any change in his home address.

(2) The Planholder will immediately inform the Plan Manager in writing if he ceases to be resident and ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom, or if, while non-resident, he ceases to perform duties as a Crown Employee.

14 VARIATIONS AND AMENDMENTS

The Plan Manager may at any time and from time to time by written notice to the Planholder make such changes in and to these Conditions as it shall determine provided that no such change shall be made which results in the Plan ceasing to qualify under the 1989 Treasury Regulations, and any such changes will be notified to Planholders in such manner as the Plan Manager considers appropriate.

15 GOVERNING LAW

These Conditions and the relationship between the Plan Manager and the Planholder shall be governed by English law.

16 INDEMNITY

The Planholder hereby agrees for himself and his personal representatives to indemnify the Plan Manager and the Nominee and at all times to keep the Plan Manager and the Nominee indemnified in respect of all liabilities, costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Plan Manager and the Nominee (except where caused by their own negligence) in connection with the establishment, administration and termination of the Plan and any investment or deposit made thereunder.

17 TERMINATION, WITHDRAWALS AND OTHER MATTERS

(1) Subject to this Condition, the Plan Manager may at any time and at its discretion make a written request to the Planholder to select Units in another Unit Trust for the purposes of his Plan and for the purposes of Condition 5 above the Planholder shall be assumed to have selected such Units in his application form, if within seven days of having made such a request or such longer period as the request shall specify and if the request shall propose termination under this Condition, the Plan Manager has not received a written selection of other Units from the Planholder, the Plan will terminate automatically.

(2) A Plan may be terminated with immediate effect by the Plan Manager giving written notice of termination to the Planholder if it becomes impossible to comply with the 1989 Treasury Regulations, and the Plan will terminate automatically with immediate effect if it becomes void under the 1989 Treasury Regulations.

(3) A Planholder may at any time by written request to the Plan Manager and the Plan Manager will make all payments to M&G Investment Management Limited (which is an associate of the Plan Manager for the purposes of the IMRO Rules) of Unit Trusts in which the Plan invests contributions, distributions, interest, cash and other rights or proceeds received in respect of them in the Personal Equity Plan;

(b) to make all appropriate claims for tax relief in respect of plan investments on their behalf;

(c) on my written request to transfer or pay to me any Plan investments, interest, cash, distributions, rights or other proceeds in respect of such investments held in the Plan.

I hereby declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the above information is true and correct.

without prejudice to (2) above direct the Plan Manager:

(a) to pay or transfer to him all or any of the Units comprised in the Plan (or the proceeds of sale thereof) and the whole or part of any cash balance and any other rights held in the Plan or

(b) within such time as shall be agreed between the Planholder and the Plan Manager to transfer the Plan to another plan manager who fulfils the conditions in the 1989 Treasury Regulations, is approved by the Board of Inland Revenue to act as a plan manager, and agrees to accept the transfer.

(4) Subject to (3) above, termination shall take place immediately but without prejudice to the completion of transactions already initiated.

(5) The Plan Manager will give reasonable written notice to the Planholder of his intention to cease to act as a Plan Manager stating when he will cease to act so that the Planholder can give a direction under (3) above. If after the Plan Manager gives the Planholder notice under this Condition 17(5) above before the Plan Manager ceases to act as such, the Plan will also terminate.

(6) Where the Plan terminates pursuant to (2) above or any such direction is given as is mentioned in (3) above and, unless the Planholder specifies otherwise and within such time as the Plan Manager specifies, the Plan Manager will sell or realise the Units (or in a case to which (3)(a) of this Condition applies the Units in respect of which the direction has been given) and will pay or transfer the proceeds of sale and any cash balance and any other rights, as appropriate, to the Planholder or to the new plan manager.

(7) Notwithstanding (2) and (3) above, the Plan Manager may deduct from the amount of any such payment or transfer:

(a) any sums due to the Plan Manager pursuant to these Conditions and

(b) except where the Plan is being transferred to another plan manager a sum determined by the Plan Manager to represent the tax liabilities of the Planholder or those of his personal representatives in connection with the Plan for which the Plan Manager is or may be accountable under the 1989 Treasury Regulations.

(8) Notwithstanding that a Plan has been terminated in whole or in part or that a direction has been given to transfer the Plan to another plan manager, these Conditions shall apply until all outstanding transactions and liabilities have been performed and discharged.

18 DEATH

(1) The Plan shall terminate automatically on the Planholder's death.</p

A growing business with Budget hopes

Even less successful unit trusts perform better than building societies, Christine Stopp writes

Investors putting £1,000 into the middle-performing UK general unit trust in January 1973, then selling the units 15 years later in January 1988, would have got £6,302 back. A similar investment made in January 1985 and redeemed in January this year would have returned £21,042.

These two results represent something like the best and the worst figures in unit trust investment.

The earlier of the two terms started at a high before the deepest plunge of the 1970s crash and ended just after the 1987 crash.

The second started when the market was at the very bottom and ended after the damage of the 1987 crash had more than been repaired.

Ken Emery: tax clarification

From 1983, the income from the unit trust was consistently greater than that from the society. In addition, the unit trust investment grew in capital value by almost 350 per cent.

You may not be able to guarantee the return on a unit trust, but even the lower of the two UK general fund figures was still a significant improvement on the performance of a building society, which would have returned £2,954 and £3,543 over the two periods respectively.

Over the long term, even the income record for unit trusts compares favourably with that of a building society account.

Recent figures from the Unit Trust Association show that £1,000 invested in a building society in 1980 would have produced £114 income in the first year and £111 in the year to January 1990.

The average UK equity income trust would have paid distributions of £71 and £188 respectively in the same two years.

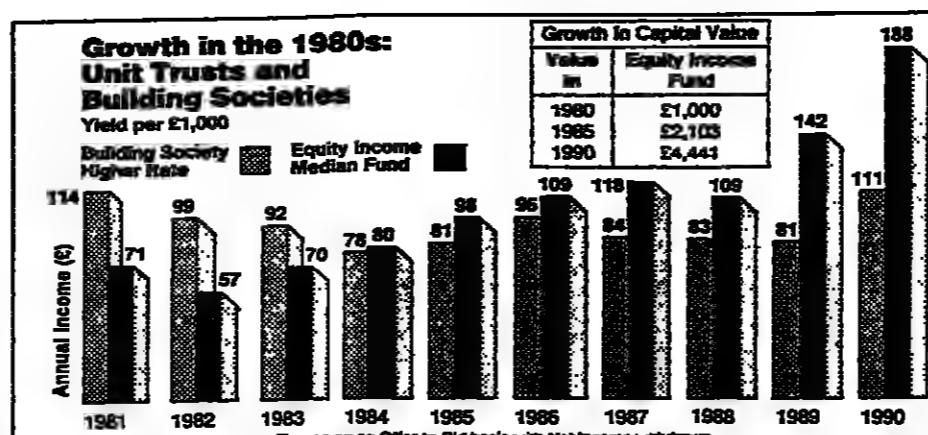
The performance chart shows what the main geographical sectors have done during the 1980s, a period that produced a succession of dramatic returns, except in 1987 and 1988.

In the 1980s unit trusts also multiplied in number, from 459 at the start of 1980 to almost 1,400 now. The abolition of exchange controls at the end of 1979 made it much easier to invest overseas, and this produced a flood of trusts that invested in new markets.

The result is that investors today have an enormous range from which to choose, though, perversely, many people see this as a disadvantage, rather than an advantage.

Unit trust managers have boldly gone where nobody would have dreamt of investing even five years ago.

They trusts are a recent high-risk addition to specialist funds. And this decade looks likely to offer further way-out possibilities. Latin American and East European funds are already available for the institutional investor, and it cannot be long before the public are offered a direct link to the action. This represents the yuppie end of unit trust



investment. For widows and orphans there will also be new opportunities.

Cash funds are already offering an attractive, tax-reclaimable investment for those rendered non-taxpayers by independent taxation. The Fidelity Cash Trust has recently been quoting yields of

about 15 per cent. It is likely to be imitated by many groups in coming months.

The long-awaited changes to the unit trust investment and borrowing powers regulations are expected soon. These will permit wider use of financial futures in unit trust funds. Futures have a reputa-

tion for being at the risky end of investment but, as Save & Prosper's technical director, Ken Emery, points out, in reality they "can be anywhere on the risk spectrum".

Guaranteed products could be one result. These will invest a large proportion of the fund in a secure home, such as gilts. The rest will be used to achieve speculative growth using futures contracts. Funds like this have already proved popular offshore.

Another low-risk innovation will be mixed funds, the unit trust alternative to insurance-managed funds.

Investment through insurance policies is losing more and more of its attraction through the abolition of tax incentives.

A dream in the industry, which may not be pie in the sky — is that unit trusts will take over the role of insurance vehicles as long-term savings

plans. Unit trust pensions and mortgages are already with us, and unit trusts offer better performance and much more flexibility than insurance policies designed for investment.

Independent taxation itself may move investors more towards unit trusts. Mary Blair, Fidelity's product development director, thinks people are only now waking up to what the new tax rules will mean.

She also sees the new regulatory climate as promising for unit trusts, as greater disclosure of costs and charges should make their attraction clear. Emphasis on a good track record for best advice purposes should be translated into greater public awareness of performance, and management groups should, in turn, be more businesslike about achieving growth.

Mary Blair: better climate would be welcomed, Mr Emery says, as well as clarification of the tax rules on the use of financial futures.

There is also concern that the taxation of UK unit trusts will make UK bond funds uncompetitive for European investors in other Community states. If something is not done about this UK companies could migrate to Luxembourg, where they would be better placed to do business in Europe.

A change in the composite rate tax rules — perhaps allowing building societies to pay without any deduction — could restore the balance between unit trusts and the societies. Ms Blair simply hopes for a Budget to stimulate investment: "If there is a year in which to encourage savers, this must be it."

As far as investment areas are concerned, Fidelity thinks the Far East, including Japan, still offers the best long-term growth possibilities though Europe comes a close second.

The caveat, Ms Blair says, is that in the case of Europe "there must be some adjustment to the euphoria we've had". A new-style Europe "cannot all be smoothed out without some hiccups".

There are a number of unit trust issues on which the industry hopes to see changes in the Budget.

A bigger unit trust PEP (personal equity plan) limit



Julian Tregoning (left): new theme. Chris Tracey: good products

account for 35 per cent of a model portfolio, with investment in such companies as Volkswagen, Siemens and Metallgesellschaft. Austria and Italy could account for 20 per cent each, while UK companies such as APV and Telos might make up 10 per cent. There is even scope for American giants such as General Electric.

Europenventures is on a special fixed-price offer of 25p per unit. There is a 1 per cent discount on applications until the offer closes on Wednesday, Jon Ashworth

The spotlight is turned on Europe

How the Eastern Bloc revolution brought the emphasis nearer home

Unit trust companies have never found it easy to sell to investors more at home with building society accounts than stocks and shares. So when the walls started coming down across Eastern Europe, the opportunity was too good to miss.

Save & Prosper inaugurated its European Smaller Markets unit trust in January. But although the trust was launched in Berlin, amid new year celebrations and talk of a reunified Germany, the trust

will stick to tried and tested markets for the time being.

Early investment will favour The Netherlands, Spain, France and West Germany — markets the managers describe as underdeveloped and undercapitalized. Smaller Markets is free to invest in the East European economies, but has no plans to do so yet.

As an early indication, West Germany was likely to make up about a quarter of the portfolio, followed by France with 22 per cent and Spain

with 19 per cent. The Netherlands would make up about 10 per cent, and smaller stakes were likely in Belgium, Switzerland, Norway, Portugal, Denmark and Italy.

Julian Tregoning, director of unit trusts and PEPs, says Europe is likely to take over from Japan and the Far East as the theme for the 1990s.

Chris Tracey, the investment director, says the vast majority of smaller European companies are under-re-

searched.

"Combine the European

Community's single market approach with the recent dramatic events in Eastern Europe and the time must be right for investment in Europe," he says.

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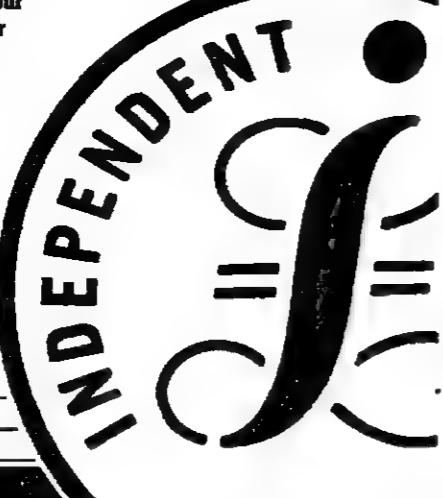
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Optimism about markets: (left to right) Peter Hargreaves, Graham Hooper, Mark Dampier

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markets moving. For Japan consider Perpetual Japanese Growth Fund, and in the satellites invest in the James Capel 1992 Index Fund — a superbly conceived and constructed fund for these inherently volatile markets.

My cynicism is based on the view that slowing world growth will have more of an adverse effect than most commentators expect. The message is clear: be selective in your choice of management group and fund manager — consistency of past performance is usually indicative of a solid future and, given a medium-term view, investors will not be disappointed.

• Mark Dampier
Whitechurch Securities

Investors have had a roller-coaster ride in world stock markets since 1987, with some dramatic rises and falls. Markets have ebbed and flowed with the political power struggles in eastern Europe. I believe this will continue into the 1990s, and investors need more than ever, to take a long-term approach.

Most stock markets have had a good run since October 1987. For starting investments this has often been enhanced, on overseas holdings, by the fall in the pound.

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UNIT TRUSTS/3

FOCUS

A SPECIAL REPORT

At home and abroad

1992

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Six New Unit Trusts for the Growth Markets of the 1990s

The stock markets of Europe provide some of the most exciting capital growth opportunities available at the present time. International investors are only just beginning to appreciate the full consequences of Europe's move towards a single market in 1992. This, together with the dramatic changes sweeping Eastern Europe, should ensure that economic growth is sustained at recent high levels well into the new decade.

With trade barriers tumbling across Europe, companies will have access to wider markets, promoting higher sales, greater competitiveness and bigger profits. As companies look beyond national boundaries, the merits of larger size will continue to encourage the growing level of takeover and merger activity now taking place.

The new found political and economic freedom in Eastern Europe has opened up new markets hungry for goods and services from their wealthy neighbours. The modernisation of Eastern European economies will further

fuel the economic boom in Western Europe.

The benefits of these developments will not be evenly spread and a variety of opportunities will arise for investors who, therefore, wish to invest in different markets at different times. Despite the advantages of being able to invest in individual European markets, no major unit trust group offers the choice between these markets that is now available from Royal-London.

About Royal London

The Royal London Unit Trust Managers Limited is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Royal London Mutual Insurance Society Limited. The Royal London Group currently manages funds of approximately £5.3 billion, over £70 million of which is already invested in Europe.

The Royal London Italian Growth Trust

Italy has become a dynamic and successful market, already enjoying many close trading links with the rest of Europe. The Italian economy has great potential as many investors have been aware of Italy's thriving underlying industrial base. The Italians themselves have a tremendous propensity to save and invest — second only to the Germans — and the future looks equally promising for the economy. It is strong in agriculture; Italian olive oil is exported all over the world and Italy is the world's single biggest wine producer. It is also strong in cars, aircraft, shipping, heavy engineering, chemicals, clothing, textiles — and perfumes. As well as the Bourse in Paris there are important provincial exchanges.

The Royal London French Growth Trust

France offers amongst the best earnings potential of the European markets. It should also benefit from economic co-operation with West Germany. France has already been a source of considerable strength to both countries. The country is rich in natural resources and has a well-established agriculture, producing and exporting all over the world. The food and drink industry is particularly strong and the Paris Stock Exchange is important in international transactions.

The Royal London German Growth Trust

FOCUS

UNIT TRUSTS/4

European launches and money trusts are expanding, Barbara Ellis says

How 1992 came early

Continental Europe is a preoccupation for Britain's unit trusts — as somewhere to invest in, as a marketplace and as a source of competition on home ground. But investors may overlook the cross-border battle for their savings already in progress because much of it is disguised, either by familiar brand names or by slow beginnings.

From this year, fund launches have included European smaller-companies fund from Save & Prosper, focusing on eastern Europe. Royal London unveiled individual trusts specializing in France, West Germany, Italy, Spain and The Netherlands, but handed out small, boxed chunks of the Berlin wall to stress awareness of crumbling communism and its impact.

But the experience of investing on the Continent

may have been sown for some time, at least for the 12,000 unit-holders recently locked into the French-owned Dumetil group's single-country funds for more than three months after the discovery of pricing difficulties. The West German banks that have bought stakes in Britain's unit trust industry should, however, avoid any rebound of bad publicity associated with foreign names.

The European single market arrived well ahead of 1992 for unit trusts. On October 1 last year, a European Community directive came into force allowing unit trusts to sell throughout Europe, provided they registered in each country as a UCITS (undertaking for

investment).

Though registration allows

units in Luxembourg because of the softer regulatory regime, including S & P's Fleming Flagship fund, but, as things stand, Mr Emery says, investors are better off with their own domestic fund, again for tax reasons.

Foreign exchange risk is another deterrent, as well as the lack of cover from the UK Investors' Compensation Scheme for UCITS based outside Britain.

Unit trust marketing in Europe is largely dominated by banks, and the UTA's Mr Smith says that outside influences will be

prevented from changing national characteristics by the UCITS provision that funds must abide by the marketing rules in each country.

However, Mary Blair of Fidelity thinks this means that it will be easier for Continental firms to sell their products in Britain than the other way round because this country has

a large number of independent sales people, as well as relatively cheap national press advertising.

But, she says, British expertise in equity investment should give the UK an edge against Continental funds, which have pri-

marily specialized in fixed-interest investment. Yet there are problems with making cross-border comparisons, according to Ms Blair. She explains, as an example, that a West German fund with exactly the same investments in, say, North America as an Italian fund could show quite a different performance and payout record because of gross payment of dividends in West Germany and net payment in Italy.

Ms Blair says that instead of

registering its UK-based funds as UCITS, Fidelity aims to set up a mirror-image Luxembourg operation by the end of September. "We feel that most Europeans don't understand the bid/offer spread which we are obliged to have," she says, explaining that Luxembourg funds have a single price based on net asset value.

At M&G, the biggest of Britain's unit trust groups, Tim Miller, marketing director, says that last October's UCITS directive was less important than it might appear because it had done nothing about harmonizing tax, marketing rules or distribution.

"The world is a lot more complicated than we thought it was," says Mr Miller, who chairs a marketing committee for the European Federation of Investment Fund Companies. "You have these different industries that have

grown up really in isolation."

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Chipping away at eastern Europe: Save & Prosper handed out small, boxed chunks of the Berlin wall

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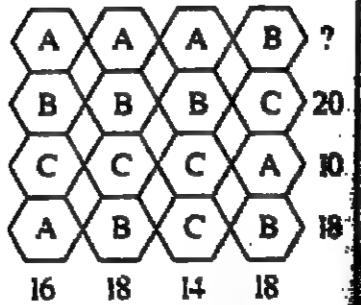
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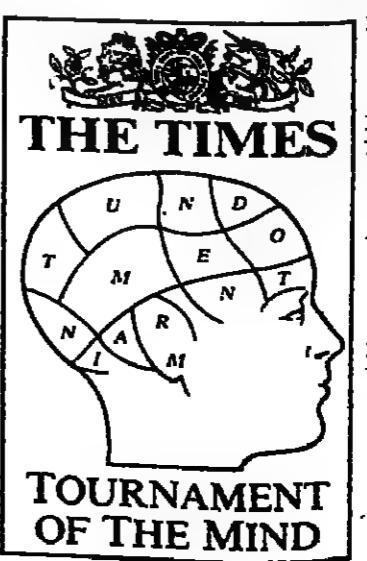
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REVIEW

SECTION 3

SATURDAY MARCH 3 1990

Men so brave, orders so foolish

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



I am a fortunate man," said Adil Sahin, "the Lord has been good. He gave me this beautiful place to live my life. In these days we speak of it, it was also a beautiful place to die." The village where Adil has lived all the 93 years of his life is Buyuk Anafarta on the Turkish peninsula called Gelibolu. We know it better as Gallipoli. Seven years ago, the 18-year-old shepherd Adil went with 32 others from his village to man-hastily dug trenches along the Sari Bair ridge above his house. Only he and two others returned. Buyuk Anafarta did not suffer alone; the scale of its losses of young men is matched on the village war memorials of New Zealand and Nepal, in the memories of the aged on Australian sheep stations, and in the records of many now-disbanded British regiments.

From Sari Bair's peaks you look down on the golden crescents of a coast of haunting place names: Anzac Cove and Suvla Bay, Gully Beach and Cape Helles. Buried among the trees above the beaches are others: Lone Pine and The Nek, Pink Farm and Twelve Tree Copse. Even now, 75 years on, there are women of a half-dozen nations who cannot bear those names without weeping.

Some of those women will be joining a pilgrimage by people from all around the world to the graves of Gallipoli next month, when the anniversary will be marked by the speeches of statesmen near where 28 Victoria Crosses were won; 216 other men were awarded the Distinguished Service Order, 354 the Military Cross, and 719 the Distinguished Conduct Medal. But no politician will be able to find a sentence which rings true but does not lean with equally heavy emphasis on the heroics and the horror this land has seen.

That horror lives still with Arthur "Johnny" Bull, aged 94, who saw the worst of the fighting with the Royal Gloucester Hussars: "It was a horrible nightmare, a terrible, terrible time."

Bull was a stretcher-bearer at the infamous Chocolate Hill, which rapidly became thick with bodies. Former Corporal Bull, who now lives in Dyfed, spent his 20th birthday in a trench under fire: "They were shooting at you all time, day and night. All you could hear was gun going pop-pop. We lived on bully beef, biscuits and water. The same water for washing and drinking.

"Wounded? I wish I had been. We all wanted to get wounded, just to get out of there."

In Adil's beautiful place during 1915, in a strip of killing ground never more than 12½ miles by five, the armies of the British Empire, France and Turkey suffered more than 500,000 casualties. More than 120,000 died on this finger of land, many in hand-to-hand fighting: "This is hell, all piled up," one Aussie wrote. No more than a quarter were ever identified; many of the rest simply became part of the very stuff of his glorious brooding scenery. Very few are left to tell, as Adil

Anzac Cove, Suvla Bay, Gully Beach, Cape Helles... the Dardanelles. Next month, as a pilgrimage of politicians, old soldiers and widows heads for the Turkish beaches, a new generation will learn with horror of the futility of Gallipoli — the killing fields of 1915.

Brian James tells the dreadful story



Survivors: Adil Sahin (left) defended the vital Sari Bair ridge; Arthur Bull saw the worst of the fighting with the Royal Gloucester Hussars

can, what it was like. He was on

duty at the north end of the bay that would become known as Anzac Cove at 4am on April 25. "My friend shouted 'Someone comes'. I saw big black shapes on the water. Then many shadows on the beach. We had great fear. But we fired. We were called back up into the hills. Still we fired. Of the 11 men in my post five were killed at once."

Adil did not know who they were fighting: "We were told they were English. But England had been our friend. We did not know why they were doing this to us. Then we were told that many came from this land of Australia. That was a great distance. Why had they come here?"

That was a question that was going to be asked, between prayers and curses, countless times in the months after April morning. Yet the men from the Empire, volunteers all, had arrived singing with confidence in pursuit of a truly Grand Design. Winston Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty, had proposed that the capture of the Gallipoli peninsula would give the Allies free use of the 40-mile stretch of water known as the Dardanelles. This in turn would give access to British fleets to the Sea of Marmara, put Istanbul

the consequences of failure were many. Churchill was sacked from the Cabinet and was seldom trusted by military minds again until his re-emergence in the

Second World War. A previously unknown Turkish divisional commander named Kemal became a national hero and established the fame that led on to his emergence as Kemal Ataturk, the "father" of the modern Turkish republic. And an equally unknown Australian journalist, Keith Murdoch, came, wrote what he had seen, and almost single-handedly ended the war.

The verdicts of historians on Gallipoli cannot be dismissed as hindsight. Soldiers of the time, one or two ranks down from the incompetent staff officers wished on the luckless commander, General Sir Ian Hamilton (who left for Turkey at 24 hours' notice with no plan and only a few tourist maps of his target) fumed as delays multiplied and chances of essential surprise vanished.

The consequences were immediate. On March 18 a formidable Allied fleet, including 18 capital ships, sailed into the Straits and began to reduce the out-gunned batteries barring the 40-mile passage. But pointless earlier assaults in November and January had so alerted the Turks that a small minesweeper had driven charges along the line chosen by the British on their previous raid: now three old battleships were sunk and three more crippled.

Adil's action, celebrated across Turkey every March 18 since as a victory marking the re-birth of a nation in decline since the ruin of the Ottoman Empire, cast the die: the British fleet fled, its admiral declaring: "First, let the troops clear the land."

According to the plan they should have been ready to do so. But incompetent staffwork meant that the approaching force was in chaotic order: units were on one ship, their guns on another, ammunition on a third. They had to return to Egypt to be combat-loaded. A month passed: every ship arrival was freely reported in Cairo newspapers; spies were taken daily around the assembly area on the island of Lemnos.

The German "advising" general, Liman von Sanders, given command of the Gallipoli garrison, could scarcely have been better prepared for his enemies. In February, Turkey had 15,000 troops on the peninsula. At 4.30am on April 25, when the first Anzacs tripped ashore, Adil Sahin was one of 80,000 men waiting to receive them. He remembers being chivvied back up the razor-backed ravines above the beaches throughout that first night by the ludicrously courageous charges of men apparently loving their first taste of war.

Next morning, British troops made their own landings on five beaches around Cape Helles on the southern tip of Gallipoli. Some, like the thousands on a converted colliery, the River Clyde, stepped off into point-blank fire and were massacred. Others, like the men on "Y" beach, sauntered ashore, looked around the town of Krithia, paused to brew up on the slopes of the height called Achi

Baba and were still awaiting orders when the Turks arrived to chase them off. Brimain was to lose 10,000 dead trying in vain to take both Krithia and Achi Baba in the next nine months.

By dawn the Anzacs had taken the first ridge of hillocks. But the land won against withering fire by the end of the first day was all they were to hold for the next three months: trapped in a beachhead, usually within sight of snipers, always in range of artillery, and fighting daily with bayonet and grenades to cling to just a few feet of scrub.

Adil says: "All day just shooting. So many died. But it was our duty. We awoke and began fighting. At night we buried those who died. We knew they would be happy now. There was no horror

for us." The fatalistic courage of these Muslim infantrymen was yet another factor totally underestimated in the planning.

"Often we were without food," Adil says. "One day the government sent hazelnuts and raisins.

The trenches of the Australians were only about 15 yards away. We threw them fruit. They threw back cigarettes and biscuits." This is a documented incident; the grudging regard of the combatants for each other is famous.

But more typical was another incident Adil, sharp-minded still at 93, recalls: "One day they waved flags from each side. And we walked out of the trenches to bury the dead." In fact, Turks do not formally bury their dead; what they wanted was to recover the rifles of the 1,000 men shot down

in one insane charge into 94,000 bullets (yes, someone counted). The Australians matched this sacrifice another day when they lost 2,400 men tackling a 300-yard section of front.

Apart from a regular diet of lack of water, lack of ammunition, lack of comprehensible orders, some days brought supreme horror.

Like the afternoon of mad bravery when leap-frogging handfuls of Gurkhas, Gloucesters and Welsh Fusiliers finally took the key peak of Chunuk Bair. They sent for reinforcements to fresh-landed troops assembled below: "Sorry, my men need a hot meal and tea before coming up," the red-taped commander said. After the Turkish counter-attack, no British soldier was left alive on Chunuk. The

Continued overleaf

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THE BATTLE OF GALLIPOLI

Continued from previous page
final débâcle came at Suvla Bay, when a fresh August landing to take the Turks from the rear saw 20,000 Empire troops land unopposed to scatter the 1,600 enemy facing them under the Sari Bair ridge. The plan visualized a dash for the heights; instead some units began digging in, others went bathing. Fresh Turkish battalions were strung along the heights when, two days later, the advance began, and was instantly halted.

Effectively, the Gallipoli campaign ended then; except that neither Hamilton nor his mulish staff nor Churchill was prepared to concede so. It took the truth about life and death on the peninsula (brought to Britain by the dramatic means outlined on this page) to provoke the one Dardanelles operation that brought credit to British arms: the evacuation.

Hamilton had said it could not be done, not without losses of up to 40,000 of his men. His replacements, Generals Monro and Birdwood, produced a plan of breathtaking audacity. From mid-December, night after night groups of men, six or a dozen at a time, filed down the gullies, silent and not smoking, moving soundlessly across roads and jetties lined with sacking and slid into barges.

On January 9, 1916, the last few, having mined their trenches and rigged Heath-Robinson devices operated by water dripping into cans to trigger abandoned rifles, crept away. The evacuation of 134,000 troops had cost not a single man. Adil says: "At first we did not believe. Then we went down through the fog, and there was no one. We sat down; what was there to celebrate?"

The 57 Anzac veterans, average age 94, making their way to where Adil waits to greet them ("not as enemies, but comrades of a terrible time") will find the peninsula as empty today as then. Like the 35 sons and daughters of the British dead on the British Legion pilgrimage, like veteran Arthur Bull, Margaret Thatcher, Australia's prime minister and New Zealand's governor-general, like the bands and colour-parties from warships that will again sail the Narrows, they will be heartened by the care given the countless cemeteries.

The Turks have made the peninsular tip a national park, forbidding all development and gimp-crack tourism and planting the once-barren hills with millions of trees. But only the imagination-dead can read the trenches, where once "as the bullets hit blood hung in the air like the droplets of a hairdresser's spray" and not feel that Adil's beautiful land is peopled with a braver presence than those striding regiments of pine.

The journalist who stopped a war



How much influence journalists truly wield can occupy much lunchtime discussion in bars, and at No 10 Downing Street. Few can claim to have written one long piece on an army "murdered by incapacity" and almost single-handedly stopped a war.

Keith Murdoch was aged 29 when he left Australia to run the London cable office of an Australian newspaper group. He was nervous about the assignment (because of his stammer, a previous attempt to conquer Fleet Street had not succeeded) and, in any case, he saw the job as second prize, having narrowly failed to gain the one place allocated to Australia in the Press corps accompanying the Gallipoli landings four months before.

He was slightly mollified by having been given the chore by his government, for a fee of £25, of stopping off in Cairo to ask questions about the failure of the Australian forces' postal system and allegations that money sent from home was vanishing on route.

To pursue those inquiries, Murdoch cabled General Sir Ian Hamilton for permission to visit campaign headquarters on Imbros to the Anzac front. This, to Hamilton's later regret, was granted... once Murdoch had signed an undertaking to write nothing that did not pass before the censor.

Murdoch was part-prepared for Anzac Cove after talking on Imbros to Ellis Ashmead-Bartlett, an English war correspondent who was scathing about the conduct of the campaign. What he was to observe for himself over four days appalled him. Worse, because of his undertaking to the censor, he could not hope to report the truth to his newspaper in Australia.

It was Ashmead-Bartlett who provided the solution. Would Murdoch, asked the Englishman, agree to carry a sealed letter to Britain's Prime Minister, Asquith? Murdoch, guessing the contents, agreed. The plan misfired when, tipped off by another journalist, Hamilton warned the War Office about the letter and a British Intelligence officer boarded Murdoch's ship at Marseilles to seize his papers.

But Murdoch had been shown a way out by placing himself under military discipline by signing the letter and a British Intelligence officer boarded Murdoch's ship at Marseilles to seize his papers.

Flies are spreading disease, and we must be evacuating 1,000 sick and wounded men every day. When the autumn rains come and bury our dead, now lying under a light soil in our trenches, sickness must increase. Even now the stench is sickening. Alas, the good human stuff that there lies buried...

When spring comes we shall have about 60,000 men left. But they will not be an army. They will be a broken force, spent. The spirit

Excerpts give a flavour. After describing the inept chaos of Suvla, Murdoch continued:

of Suvla is simply deplorable. The men have no confidence in the staff, little in London. Every man knows that the last operations were grossly bungled by the general staff, and that Hamilton has led a series of armies into a series of cul-de-sacs. You would hardly believe the evidence of your own eyes at Suvla. You would refuse to believe that these men were really British soldiers. So badly shaken are they by their miserable defeats, so affected by the lack of water and the monotony of salt beef and rice diet, that they show an atrophy of mind and body that is appalling.

I do not like to dictate this sentence, even for your eyes, but the fact is that after the first day at Suvla orders had to be issued to officers to shoot without mercy any soldiers who lagged behind or loitered in an advance.

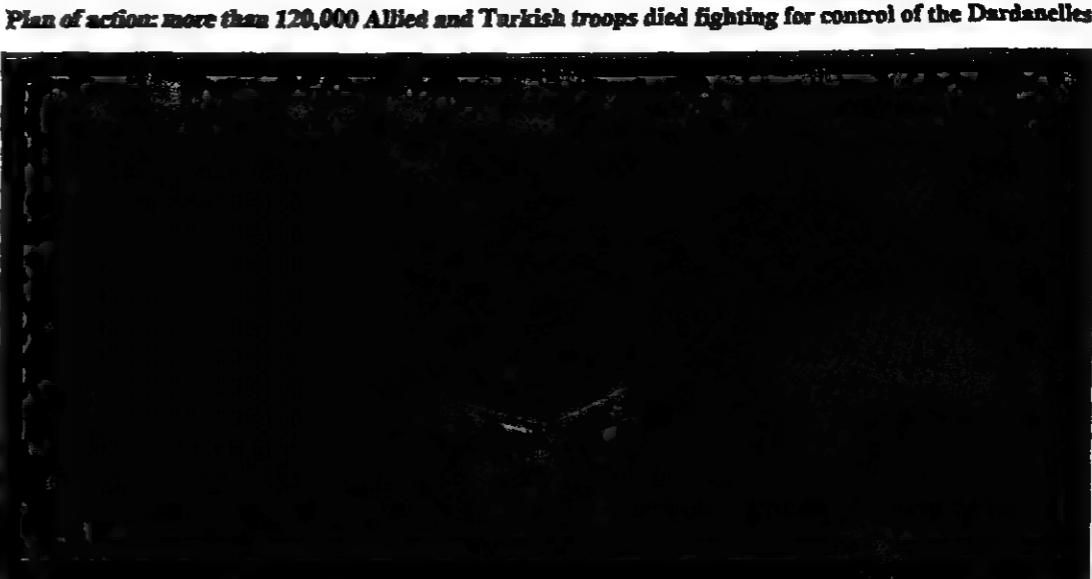
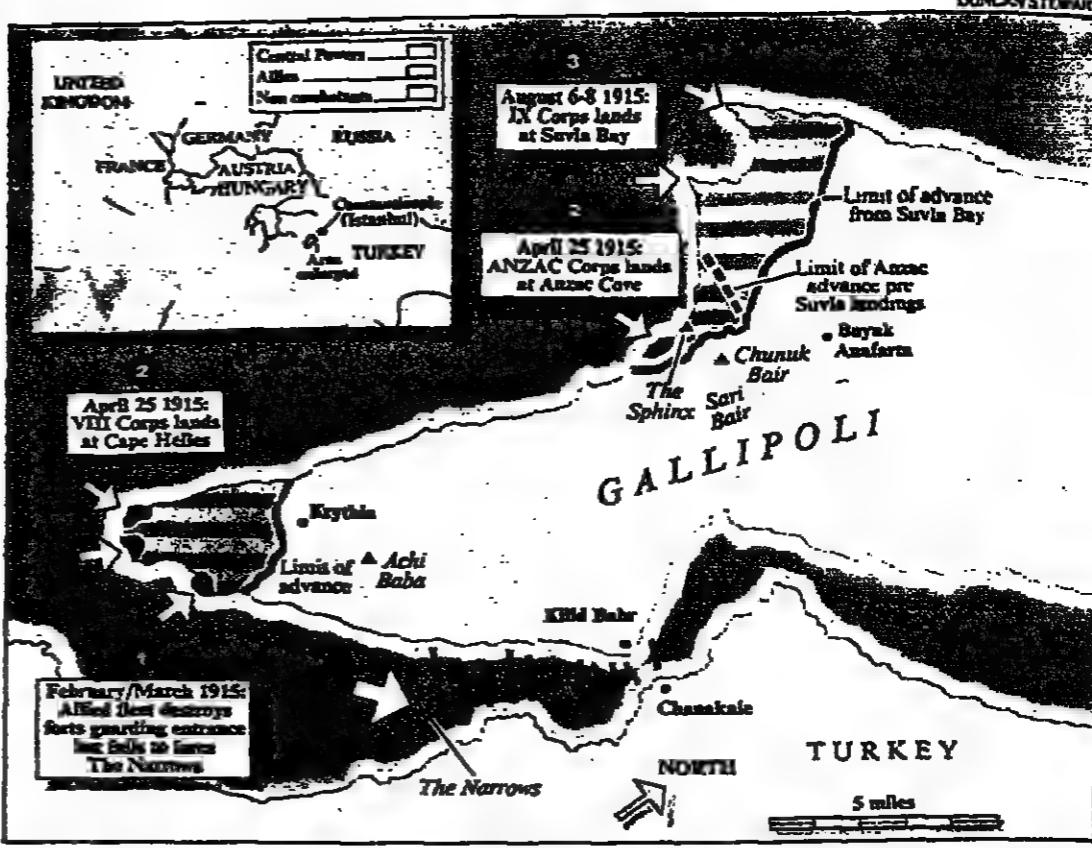
For the general staff and I, fear, Hamilton, officers and men have nothing but contempt. They express it fearlessly. That however is not peculiar to Anzac. Sedition is talked round every tin of bully beef on the peninsula, and it is only loyalty that holds the forces together.

Undoubtedly, the essential and first step to restore the morale of the shaken forces is to recall him and his Chief of Staff [General Brathwaite], a man more cordially detested in our forces than Enver Pasha. The continuous and glibly bungling over the Dardanelles enterprise was to be expected from such a General Staff as the British Army possesses, so far as I have seen it. The conceit and complacency of the red feather men are equalled only by their incapacity.

Along the lines of communications, and especially at Mudros, are countless high officers and conceited young cuts only playing at war. What can you expect of men who have never worked seriously, who have lived for their appearance and for social distinction and self-satisfaction, and who are now called on to conduct a gigantic war? Australians now loathe and detest any Englishman wearing red.

Murdoch finished his letter and went to lunch with Geoffrey Dawson, then editor of *The Times*, at Simpson's-in-the-Strand. Back at the office, Dawson sent a message: could Murdoch be persuaded to repeat what he had said to a member of the War Cabinet?

In the next few dizzying days the unknown reporter was grilled in



Tank's eye view: Anzac Cove (top left) today with its sombre memorial, and beachheads curving to North Cove

Australians only dimly aware of what he had done.

His son, Rupert, who created an even greater media empire, recalls: "My father remembered what he had seen all his life. Yet he seldom spoke of the part he played."

But Charles Bean, Australia's official war historian and an appalled witness of Gallipoli, wrote: "It is a bit of a shock to find that what the whole system cannot do after months of close attention, a single visitor can do within days... that is make up the mind of the British Government."



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A CHILDHOOD: LADY ANTONIA FRASER

'I was the person who nobody would walk with in the crocodile to Salisbury Cathedral'

When Antonia Fraser was born her father, Frank Pakenham, later to become the Earl of Longford, was a Conservative and a Protestant. By the time she was eight, he was Catholic and Labour. In the meantime he had been an Oxford don, the prospective Parliamentary Labour candidate for Oxford City in 1938, and had become personal assistant to Sir William Beveridge in setting up the Welfare State. Her mother had contested Cheltenham as a Labour candidate in 1935, and was a Workers' Educational Association lecturer.

Antonia was the first of their eight children. The next child, Thomas, 11 months younger, has been her friend throughout life. Over the years American magazines have enjoyed

making a point of her aristocratic lineage (the Longford title goes back to 1785), but they miss the point. Antonia Fraser's childhood was academic and socialist politics in the educationally competitive

background of north Oxford. In fact, her earliest memories are of Oxford: Magdalen lit up for King George V's jubilee, being taken to see her father play rugby, and his freezing rooms at Christ Church. For a time during the war, the Pakenhams were evacuated with the families of three other dons to an Elizabethan manor house. But then, as everyone knew, Oxford was not going to be bombed, so it was back to the Dragon School and a large, sumptuous house.

It was, she thinks, a very special kind of childhood in that, since so many of the parents of the children were dons, it was highly competitive. The parents took a great interest in their children's education. So, not only were you competing for it, but people did ask you about your school reports and how the children of fellow dons were doing.

"So it was very competitive, but I don't think children mind that as much as is sometimes supposed, because we all had a lot of fun bicycling about north Oxford and swimming in the Cherwell."

The Dragon School was, of course, really a boys' school - 400 boys to 20 girls, most of whom were daughters of parents who were away. Faced with these kinds of odds, the girls simply got on with being boys. Antonia playing wing three-quarter at rugby, and being top of the form.

Obviously bright, and an inordinately fast reader ("really quite alarmingly fast: I'd win money off grown-ups for reading Scott's novels. It's just a faculty like running fast, nothing to do with intelligence"), she quickly appreciated that the way to win favour was to do well at school. "My mother was a great believer in education for her children and very competitive, and she was always pleased when I did well."

Her mother was the more practical of her parents, the one

who brought up the children. "My father was almost exactly like he is now. He's done many, many different things, but he was always very absent-minded and vague, famous for taking a taxi from one end of the road to the other."

"He was extremely kind, but also extremely remote. He didn't give me the feeling that I could pour out my heart to him, but I don't think parents of that generation did. I always felt that if I was in terrible trouble he'd be the person I'd go to. And, in fact, when my own children have got into various scrapes, it's been off to lunch at the House of Lords with their grandfather. That's the seal that they're in trouble."

She was already interested in writing and, at the age of 10, wrote a poem for Winston Churchill on the occasion of his birthday, and sent it to Downing Street.

The next morning, at breakfast, my mother said, "By the way, Antonia, you were thanked for your poem on the radio last night. Now the thing about this story is that I wasn't a bit surprised. I thought it was a good poem and so I went off to school very pleased at having been thanked. It wasn't until weeks afterwards that I discovered that what was actually said was 'Mr Churchill wishes to thank all the people who have sent him cards and letters on the occasion of his birthday'."

At 12, she moved to a Church of England girls' boarding school, Godolphin School at Salisbury, an experience so bleak that she even omits it from her entry in *Who's Who*. "I can't think of anything good about it, except that our house-mistress used to read aloud Dorothy Sayers's *The Man Born To Be King*.

"I've no doubt I was precocious and not very interesting to know for a lot of girls, but, you know, it was horrible. I was the person who nobody would walk with in the crocodile to Salisbury Cathedral."

Some years ago, she mentioned this fact to a gossip columnist and shortly afterwards received a letter from a Godolphin old girl saying, "The truth is you were not popular because you were not very nice."

There was one happy outcome of Godolphin, however, in that one of her old teachers recognized herself in the first *Jemima Shore* mystery, *Quiet As A Nun*. "I had a letter after all those years. She's over 80 now and lives in Bath. We still correspond."

At 13, she chose to become a Catholic. Her father had been a Catholic since the beginning of the war and she had always felt "a great, but perfectly childish, leaning towards the Catholic church. I liked the incense, the mystery. I liked religion and I liked that it was very strange to me."

"My mother didn't become Catholic until 1946, after which the younger children were dunked in the font again. Thomas and I were allowed to choose. So I chose."

The choice meant transferring to a Catholic school, St Mary's Convent in Ascot: "I loved all the



Oxford daughter born to win: Lady Antonia Fraser today and (left, inset) as a child: "It was very competitive, but I don't think children mind that as much as is sometimes supposed"

ritual, the white veils on Sunday and the black veils for going to mass every morning. When my daughter went to the same school 30 years later, I was appalled. They never seemed to go to mass at all."

By now, she was discovering that being the daughter of a Labour Minister (her father was at the War Office in Attlee's post-war government, and ended up as Minister of Aviation) made her somewhat "out of kilter" with the other girls at school.

"When I'd been at the Dragon School, it seemed to me that we were extremely poor in that my father only had a don's salary which was traditionally small, and there were eight of us in the house. So we lived like other people around us, most of whom would, in the war, have been socialists.

"I can remember putting leaflets through letter boxes and asking people, 'Will you be voting for Frank Pakenham?' That was a very important part of my child-

hood. Then, when I went to Godolphin and to Ascot, I found it was very, very odd that everybody was a Conservative and that they told jokes about the Labour Party being like a bunch of bananas: green at first, then yellow and then rotten."

As well as being a rapid and wide reader (she was addicted to

thrillers), she was also by now writing more - romantic thrillers and historical romances. Indeed, the publication this month of her seventh *Jemima Shore* mystery, *The Cavalier Case* (Bloomsbury, £12.99), is continuing a long tradition of novels written in between her historical biographies, from school days. At Ascot, what made her happiest was winning the history prize. But one year, when she should have been swooning for exams, she disappeared into the library with *Gone With The Wind*.

Nevertheless, by 15 she had taken her Higher School Certificate, in which she did very well. People seemed to take examinations earlier in those days, she thinks, and has found it very odd to find her own children lumbering around the house doing A levels at 18.

The family had by now moved to London and various jobs and hobbies filled in before she went to university. For a time, she was an accounts typist,

then studied French poetry at the Lyceé, and then moved on to Fenwick's hat department, from which she was sacked for telling the Press that she believed in "Sis and no Sis" - she didn't want to work on Saturdays, but she did want to be able to sit down.

By now, the family was living in Hampstead Garden Suburb, which she hated because it was so far from the Tube. "So I used to stay with my aunt and uncle, Anthony Powell, who lived in Chester Gate. He was just beginning to write *A Dance to the Music*.

of Time, and because he was so charming and interesting, I formed the impression that a writer's life was a very nice one. That had a very great influence on me."

There had probably never been much doubt that she would follow both her parents to Oxford, but she now thinks it was probably a mistake. For the only time in her life she chose not to work very hard and didn't particularly enjoy her days there. "I'd grown up in Oxford. It was my home town. I should probably have gone to Cambridge or somewhere else."

She never thought she was particularly pretty. "I remember as a little girl my nanny saying, 'Never mind, Antonia, Betty Grable has a big mouth, too.' And I rushed to *Photoplay* and there was Betty Grable with this enormous mouth covered in dripping red lipstick. I howled with frustration."

"Although my mother was good at praising academic excellence, she's not at all vain herself, and never saw the necessity to tell me that I was pretty, whether I was or not. I've reacted against that with my own children." (She has six.) "I'm always telling them how pretty they are. I think they are."

She was, of course, always at parties and always in love. It was a time of coffee bars, Perspex coffee cups and rubber plants. "I couldn't think what was happening to the world. It was so enchanting."

From Oxford she went into publishing and worked for George Weidenfeld until, at 23, she married Hugo Fraser. But already she was writing professionally: her first children's book was published when she was 22.

Now married to Harold Pinter, with three grown-up children still living at home, she writes every day, and is still the romantic. Years ago, she said: "It seems to me that we only have a very few romantic moments in our lives, and if we let one go, then our lives are so much the poorer for it."

Photograph by Stephen Markeson

by Ray Connolly

One hundred exciting headlines



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Bros Set To Tour "Later This Year"
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Sarah Keays Wins Fresh Damages
Row Breaks over Royal Portrait
Hard Left Claims "Sell Out" by Kinnock
Julian Critchley Cracks New Joke About Thatcher
Cricket: England Thrashes Guatemala
David Waddington Full Colour Profile plus Exclusive Interview
Celebrating Christmas with Penelope Keith
New Sunday Paper Launched: "First for Two and a Half Months" claims Editor
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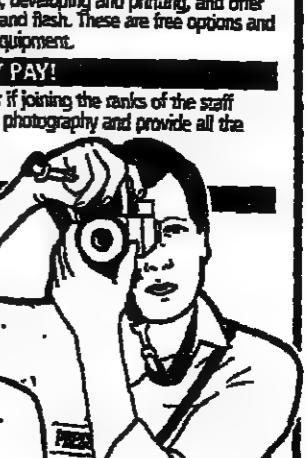
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TIN 400



FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

PETER JACOBS

From rags to respectability

SOWETO
3 MAR 1990
SOUTH AFRICA

At dawn a grey haze from the wood-burning stoves hangs over this squallid ghetto, as South Africa's largest dormitory, Johannesburg's sprawling servants' quarters for two million blacks, begins to stir. Students in neatly pressed black and white uniforms set off for school, a man who has found a patch of wasteland tends a herd of goats, and 400,000 blacks, from factory workers to businessmen, begin the seven-mile journey to central Johannesburg to keep the nation's industries going.

Even in the air a new visitor about to touch down at Jan Smuts Airport cannot mistake Soweto, the exotic-sounding acronym for the South-Western Townships.

Most noticeable is the conspicuous absence of swimming pools, dotted so liberally about the gardens of white suburban homes. And there is also Soweto's incongruous setting — a sprawling patchwork of tiny homes aligned along dirt roads and hidden behind the neat, square hills of ancient mine dumps.

Consult most world guides and you would be hard-pressed to locate South Africa's largest population centre. In its 86-year history of neglect and despair no one ever intended Soweto to become anything more than a "location", a forgotten city kept out of sight where blacks went to sleep in the evening before returning to work the next day.

Even in Soweto's infancy the owners were not good.

The first settlement near the present township consisted of an emergency camp for black migrant workers who, in 1904, had to be evacuated from their slum dwellings in Johannesburg when bubonic plague swept through the community.

Since then the township's legacy has been one of cruelty and violence perpetrated by the authorities against the inhabitants and by Sowetoans against each other, a by-product of overcrowding, high unemployment and poor schooling.

Attempts to improve conditions were set back with the advent of the National Party and the re-

Despair gives way to hope as an affluent black middle class emerges in Soweto, reports Nicholas Beeston

movements enforced under apartheid legislation. From 1953 to 1968 more than 22,000 black families and 6,500 single people were rounded up by the police and troops and dumped unceremoniously in Soweto from the Johannesburg district of Sophiatown, since tastelessly renamed Triumph (Triumph) for its white inhabitants.

Even under more reform-minded National Party governments the few improvements to the township were overshadowed by outbreaks of violence.

On June 16, 1976, 15 people were killed when students demonstrated against being forced to learn in Afrikaans in school. Since the uprising and subsequent riots in the mid-1980s hardly a family in the township has been left unscarred.

The hardships endured by the long-suffering Sowetans will be familiar to Nelson Mandela, who three weeks ago returned to his modest brick bungalow in Orlando West for the first time in 27 years and told 120,000 of the township's youngsters that the existence of the ghetto in its present form would be unacceptable in a new South Africa.

But if he finds time to tour the township he will hardly be able to recognize the dramatic changes that have occurred since his incarceration.

Opposite his home, across the now-paved street, a complex of roomy villas with gardens and

garages known locally as "Beverly Hills" has sprung up to house the black élite of doctors, lawyers and business.

Highways, a university and a shopping centre, all the trappings of an infrastructure previously denied Sowetans, have mushroomed in the past decade.

And throughout the township, judging from the luxury cars and the new housing developments, there are signs that a new class, the "buppies" (black upwardly mobile professionals), is making its mark.

Once banned from owning businesses and property and restricted by law to menial jobs, black businesspeople involved with everything from fast food restaurants to small factories are blossoming and with them an affluent black middle class is emerging.

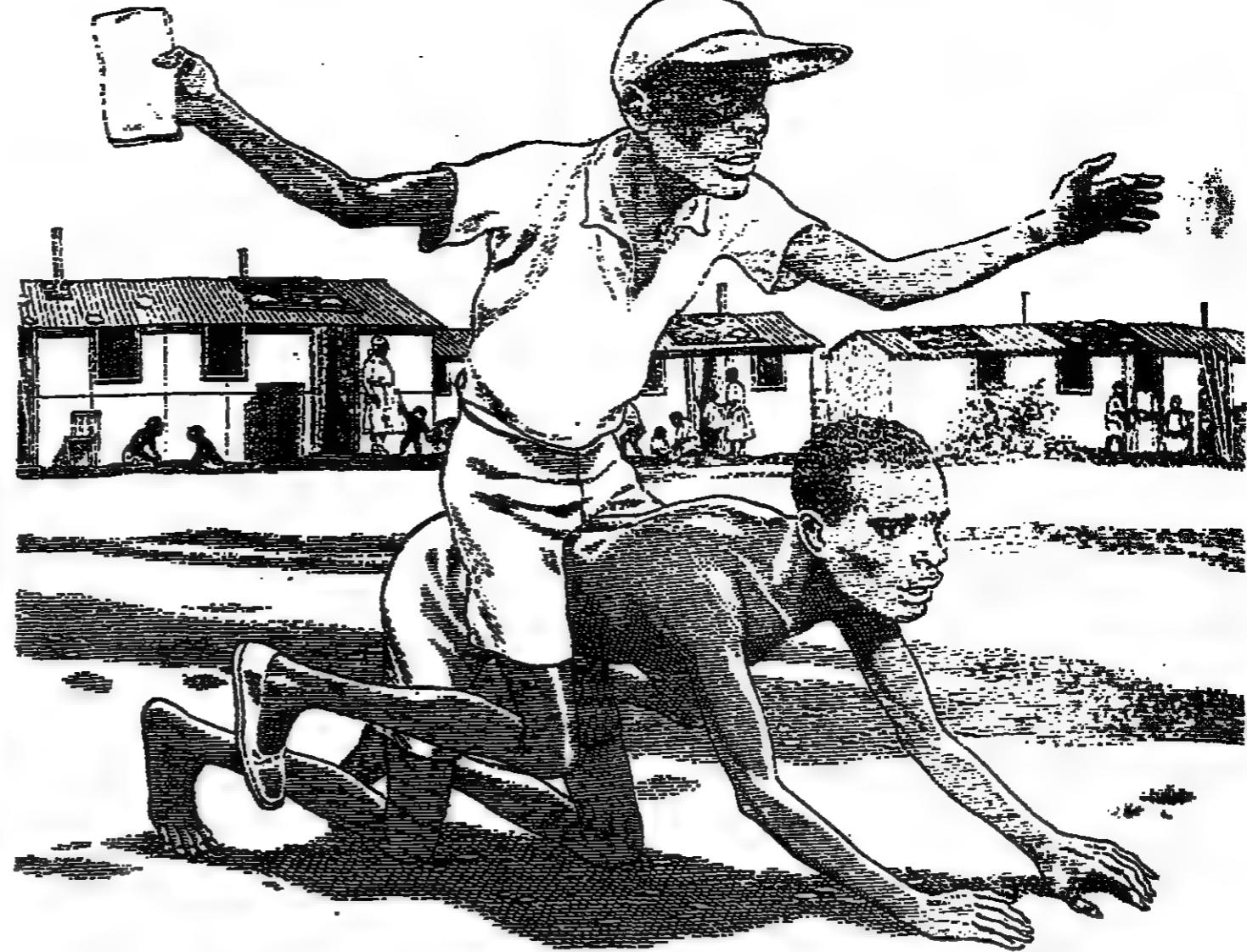
You don't have to look much further than Godfrey Moloi's Blue Fountain jazz club to be struck by the dramatic changes.

Mr Moloi, aged 53, self-confessed one-time gangster, bootlegger, jazz musician and now respected member of Soweto society, looks like a Dixieland jazz musician with a straw boater covering his bald head, two-tone brogues and an array of signet rings, one bearing a coat of arms he recently had designed for his family.

Mr Moloi's personal history, related in a recent autobiography, *My Life*, embodies the story of the township.

The son of an Anglican priest, Mr Moloi and his family were forced out of Johannesburg's Prospect district in 1936 by the authorities and relocated to a tiny three-room "matchbox" house in Soweto.

"Have you heard of the 'Domkey Game'?" he asked. "That was a game I played as a child. One boy in the street who had richer parents than the rest of us would come out every day with a slice of buttered bread and shout 'Who will be my donkey?' We would all fall to our knees and start braying. The boy would select his donkey of the day and ride around on his back before allowing him to have a bite of his bread. I was good at playing the comic and I was his favourite donkey, but I don't want to see that happening again in Soweto."



Mr Moloi runs a scholarship programme for gifted black students and a schools football competition aimed at keeping young blacks in the classroom.

"I am trying to set some standards in the community. For instance, today I received a call from the Foreign Ministry asking me to go to Pretoria to see the minister, Piko Bodza.

"We get white people driving all the way from Johannesburg to come to my club. I want to prove to my people that we can do it if we try."

One of his regulars at the Blue Fountain, a successful entrepreneur called Sam, eulogizes Mr Moloi and what he stands for.

"Someone tried to get in here tonight wearing shorts," he said between sips of his vodka and soda. "Mr Moloi won't let any person in off the street. We told him to go home and only come back when he was properly dressed. I think we should make this club members only."

The talk this evening is not of

revolution but of more down-to-earth bourgeois concerns. "The problem with the housing market in South Africa is the high interest rates which have pushed mortgages up and made it very difficult for first-time buyers," complained Joe, a black property developer who sounds more like a Clapham estate agent than a man who, until a few years ago, was regularly arrested by police for pass law Audi."

For some, like the richest black businessman in South Africa, Richard Maponya, who owns the BMW dealership in Soweto, wealth and respectability have taken him away from Soweto to the prosperous white northern suburbs of Johannesburg.

When the Group Areas Act, which restricts races to certain areas, is eventually lifted, there are fears that well-to-do blacks will abandon the township to those who cannot afford to move and condemn Soweto indefinitely to sub-class status.

Asked about the threat to the township's future, Mr Mandela said: "When Archbishop Tutu had the chance to move into an

affluent white area he chose to remain among his own people here in Soweto.

"The blacks in Soweto won't move into white suburbs overnight, many don't have the money and others don't have the inclination."

Certainly one man who will not budge is Mr Moloi.

"I will never leave Soweto," he said. "It is my dream that people will be allowed to build their own homes, run their businesses and turn this place into a proper city one day."

"We ought to get rid of apartheid but that does not mean that all the races will start living together. You just have to look at Britain or the United States — in fact anywhere in the world. Christians don't live with Muslims, or Protestants with Catholics, or blacks with whites."

"I will be here to the end," he vowed. "I even have my grave ready here. I would not want to die anywhere else."

MUSEUMS

Homes for a missing Muse

More artists and fewer academics — the major European museums need new heart, Kenneth Hudson argues

beginning. What this remarkable museum offers is a complete portrait of David — who he was, how he worked, what his domestic life was like and what his contemporaries thought of him. Visitors leave confident they know as much about David d'Angers as anyone else in the world. And that, for an art museum, really is a revolution.

You get much the same feeling at the Paul Delvaux Museum at St Isidore, along the coast from Ostend. M. Delvaux, now in his nineties, is a much-loved figure in Belgium. His museum is not elitist; it assumes visitors will like the paintings, which are not wilfully obscure.

The lesson to be learnt from Angers and St Isidore seems to be that the future of art museums lies with places which are small and concentrate on a single artist with local associations. As soon as several artists have to share the same building, intellectualism, schools and movements take over and the common man goes elsewhere. Museums have allowed

themselves to be prisoners of their titles for too long. But the barriers are gradually coming down.

Ennem, a small town in the north-east of The Netherlands, has one of Europe's great pioneering museums, the Noorder Dierentuin. It is an invigorating blend of zoo, natural history museum, ethnographical museum and conservation centre, based on the conviction that man and other living creatures are interdependent.

Under the guidance of another museum genius, Aleid Rensen-Oosting, the museum has enjoyed a spectacular growth in popularity during the past 20 years. The Noorder Dierentuin is a crusading museum, not an academic retreat, and it provides a quickfire series of bright, well-designed exhibitions to encourage frequent return visits. There are no cages; elephants and giraffes stroll about together and exotic butterflies settle on the heads of visitors. How

today, there are certainly more poets in Continental museums, more people with the courage and ability to select telling images. This is nowhere better illustrated than at Heideheim, near Stuttgart, in the new Museum of Coaches, Carriages, Carts and Wagons.

The display here has been selected and arranged to place horse-drawn transport within its social context, showing how changes in transport have affected people's habits and thinking. Care has been taken to provide variety, interest and drama in the presentations and to ensure the museum reveals a sense of history, not merely a series of objects.

In the art of selection and of making every exhibit in a museum work hard, the Swedes and the West Germans are making the running. It is no accident that both are wealthy countries, and not afraid to throw things away.

The impoverished British, by contrast, are lagging behind. We are the people who hunker ourselves with enormous surfaces when we go on holiday because we cannot decide what to leave behind. The ability to prune hard, to be simple, and to rely on symbols are the marks of an advanced culture.

• Kenneth Hudson is director of the European Museum of the Year Award. His Cambridge Guide to the Museums of Europe will be published later this year.

EARTHQUAKE SURVIVAL: A plaque from Samuel Moore's Wear pottery which survived the San Francisco earthquake has just gone on show in Sunderland. Made last century, it shows potters panning for gold in California.

OFF THE RACKS: A selection of the 250 items acquired for the municipal art collection in Stoke-on-Trent since 1979. Artists from Constable to L. S. Lowry and a wide range of watercolours come out of the Stoke-on-Trent Museum and Art Gallery, Hanley, Staffordshire (0782 202173). Admission free. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm. Until April 1.

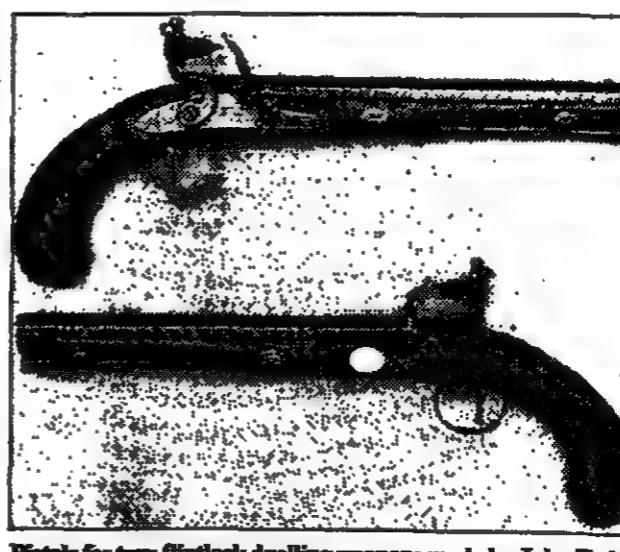
ON PARADE: More than 1,000 toy soldiers from historic British regiments from the collection of the late Ralph Moffat, a former regular in

Arts and Crafts style by Morris Marshall Faulkner. Liverpool Museum, Broad Street, Liverpool (051 2070001). Admission free. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm. Until April 1.

SALES GUIDE

Peter Philp reports on the enduring attraction of duelling weapons

Pistols to fight for



Pistols for two: flintlock duelling weapons made by John Twigg circa 1785, sold by Christie's South Kensington for £4,800

As things to collect, duelling pistols fall into the fearsome but fascinating category. The thought of two men standing back to back, taking 10 paces and turning to fire at each other in the name of honour still sparks off a frisson, however much you may agree with Queen Victoria who, in 1844, was said to be "desirous of devising some expedient by which the barbarous practice of duelling should be as much as possible discouraged".

Legally, anyone found guilty of killing his opponent was a murderer and should have been sentenced to be hanged, but very few British judges were willing to convict. In the reign of George III (1760-1820), 172 duels were fought in Britain, of which 91 ended in death. Confrontations were commonplace between army officers and newspaper editors instead of having to defend expensive libel actions, were often called out to settle matters quickly and cheaply. In 1821 the editor of the *London Magazine*, John Scott, died in a duel, and in 1835 Mr Scott of the *Morning Chronicle* had to face an inquest reader.

On the Continent, duels of honour (as distinct from early judicial contests and trials by battle) were fought from the 15th century onwards, often for frivolous reasons: a Neapolitan aristocrat faced 14 opponents to uphold his claim that Dame was a finer poet than Ariosto. He later confessed that he had never read works by either of them. In England, it was only after the Restoration of Charles II in 1660 that, following a lead from France, duelling became a general use throughout Europe.

Although many flintlock pistols are richly decorated with carving, engraving and silver mounts, the purpose-built duelling weapon was

more often plain, with brown or blue barrels that did not distract the marksman's eye by reflecting light. Some had rifled barrels, but these were considered unsporting by dedicated duellists. Some, however, were sufficiently vicious to have pistols made with rifling that stopped a few inches short of the muzzle, so that, on cursory inspection, it would pass unnoticed.

Firing the flintlock produced live sparks which gave a warning to a wary target and made it unreliable in wet weather. To overcome these difficulties, a Scottish clergyman, Alexander Forsyth, devised a method that

patented in 1807, using a fulminate to set off the charge. This proved unsuitable for the flintlock, but experiments led to the invention of the percussion cap pistol, for which a well-known gun-maker, Joseph Egg, claimed the credit.

In fact, a number of gunsmiths contributed variations and improvements that, when applied to the duelling pistol, made it a deadly, all-weather weapon, justifying Queen Victoria's concern about the number of her soldiers and politicians who were being killed or maimed in duels.

A fine pair of pistols commands more than double the price of a single specimen, but a good shot may feel it safe to economize by buying only one — a late-17th century flintlock holster pistol, perhaps, for about £500, against £3,000-£5,000 for a fine pair of 18th or early-19th century duelling pistols by a well-known maker.

The faking of antique firearms has become a small but important branch of the armaments industry, and although I have heard no loud reports concerning cases of disputed authenticity ending in the traditional demand for "pistols for two and coffee for one", it is safest to buy from reputable specialists in the field.

• Specialist auctioneers: Walms & Wallis, West Street, Lewes, Sussex (0273 480208); Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, SW7 (01-581 7611).

• Specialist dealers: Michael Gordon, 38a Kensington Church Street, W8 (01-537 2771); Arbour Antiques, Peters' Arbour, Sheep Street, Stratford-upon-Avon (0789 293453).

Tues 5pm-8pm, Wed 5pm-8pm, Sat 10am-1pm.

SKI SUCCESS: A 7in-high clockwork model of a sledge in blue and yellow is likely to

propel itself into the £300-£1,000 bracket on

Thursday. Also toys, dolls, puppets.

Lavender Fine Art, South Street, Cirencester, Gloucestershire (0460 73041). Viewing today 9.30am-12.30pm, Tues 10am-7pm, Wed 10am-4.30pm. Sale: Thurs 10am.

John Shaw

• On Wednesday The Times guide to antiques and collectables focuses on

Oriental textiles and carpets.

THE NED SHERRIN COLUMN



Gloves off for an understudy

I have in my time been understudied by Hermione Gingold and played (as narrator of *Side By Side By Sondheim*) by artists as varied as Peggy Lee, Dorothy Lamour, Russell Harty, Michael Aspel, Sheridan Morley and two glove puppets called Kukla and Ollie. But I had to wait until Saturday to be a stand-in myself — for Frank Warren, the gunned-down boxing promoter.

I have never met Mr Warren although I did once shake hands with Terry Marsh, the fighter accused of trying to arrange his death, a few years ago when he was made a Man of the Year.

I owed my new role to BBC Northern Ireland who had booked Mr Warren (suddenly indisposed) to appear on *The Show*, an ambitious late Saturday night entertainment which is transmitted from its Balmoral studio in Belfast. Two comedians and a host of actors conducted 75 minutes of satirical sketches, songs, interviews, badinage and general jollity.

It was my first visit to Ulster. My man in Deal had warned me that he was once lifted off the floor of a pub in Ennis Court by the late Patrick Magee for using the word and not put down until he corrected it to "the six counties", so I travelled cautiously. The journey from the airport skirted the top of the Falls Road but my visit was coopted on car, hotel and studio.

What did surprise me was the range of subjects covered in the sketches and the number of public figures mocked by the actors and impersonators. Ian Paisley, Gerry Fitt, Barry McGuigan, John Cole, Sir John Herman, Peter Brooks and Gerry Adams were all treated with scant respect, and the impersonation of Adams was wittily done as a soundless mime to accommodate current broadcasting restrictions.

My fellow guest was the film critic Alexander Walker. Over dinner he told me that in 1987 he judged an Ulster film festival. He spoke lyrically of *The Best Man*, the winning entry, produced by a Catholic priest. It had been shown on RTE but not on British screens, big or small. His enthusiasm made me think we are missing a gem.

I AM NOT a great fan of Irish jokes but John Junkin has one which he swears is true. He was touring with Neil Simon's play, *The Odd Couple*, and they reached Nottingham where Junkin and his co-star celebrated their successful opening not wisely but too well.

When John retired late to bed in his hotel he dropped into a deep sleep. Half an hour later he became

aware of a noise which, as he wrenched himself into consciousness, he recognized as a thunderous pounding on his bedroom door.

He groped his way blearily to open it and was confronted by the Irish night porter, who looked at him solicitously. "Excuse me, sir," he said, "are you the gentleman who's locked out of his room?"

THE STOLEN coaster mystery is ravaging BBC Radio. Suspects in this crime of the decade include Sir Anthony Jay, Alan Coren and his daughter Victoria who may have been working in tandem, Ray Davies of the Kinks, Carol Thatcher, Victoria Mather, Joels Holland, Andy Kershaw and John Walters, the senior Radio One producer. I have been interrogated but I am convinced of my innocence.

The victim of this dastardly crime is Caroline Millington, the dynamic, crop-haired director of CAMP (BBC speak for Current Affairs Magazine Programmes). The missing objects which she prizes above Fabergé are cardboard coasters decorated with a cartoon of the Rt Hon Norman Tebbit, the man who sees the BBC as "a sunset home for third-rate minds and Red Queens". Mr Tebbit features on the coasters as Prospero with Ariel, in a parody of a famous BBC design.

Suspects gained access to Ms Millington's office during a party she threw to celebrate 200 editions of *Loose Ends*. When their revels ended their hostess discovered her loss. She has given Ian Garthouse, her producer, strict instructions to retrieve the valued coasters. Anyone having information about this crime should ring Mr Garthouse, not Nick Ross.

NO ONE should complain about lack of variety in recent mainstream West End offerings. Of three recent first nights, Alan Ayckbourn's *Man of the Moment* at the Globe wins for confident marshalling of all the elements of a commercial hit. *Exchange*, the Russian play adapted by Michael Frayn at the Vaudeville, was more solemn but it eschewed those clouds of grey which Ira Gershwin assured us any Russian play can guarantee.

JOHN MINNION

On the first night, a real drama was played out on stage in tandem with the written plot. Our attention was riveted to a creaking basket chair which threatened to disintegrate in Act Two under the weight of the dying Colin Douglas.

By the time it was Dame Dame Manley's turn to expire on it the leading man, Martin Jarvis, had cleverly fixed some support but Miss Mantle still perched suspiciously on the edge.

The first night audience for Jerry Hall's debut in *Bus Stop* was a severe disappointment. It behaved like the crowd of celebs we had expected, prolonging the interval intermittently in the bar and in social groups in the stalls, in spite of being severely short on glamour.

Despite good performances, the

limp old play never grasped the attention of a group which consisted largely of gossip columnists, critics, media folk and showbiz lawyers. I did see Jade Jagger and Ross Benson told me there were two marquises upstairs, but it was not much of a turn-out.

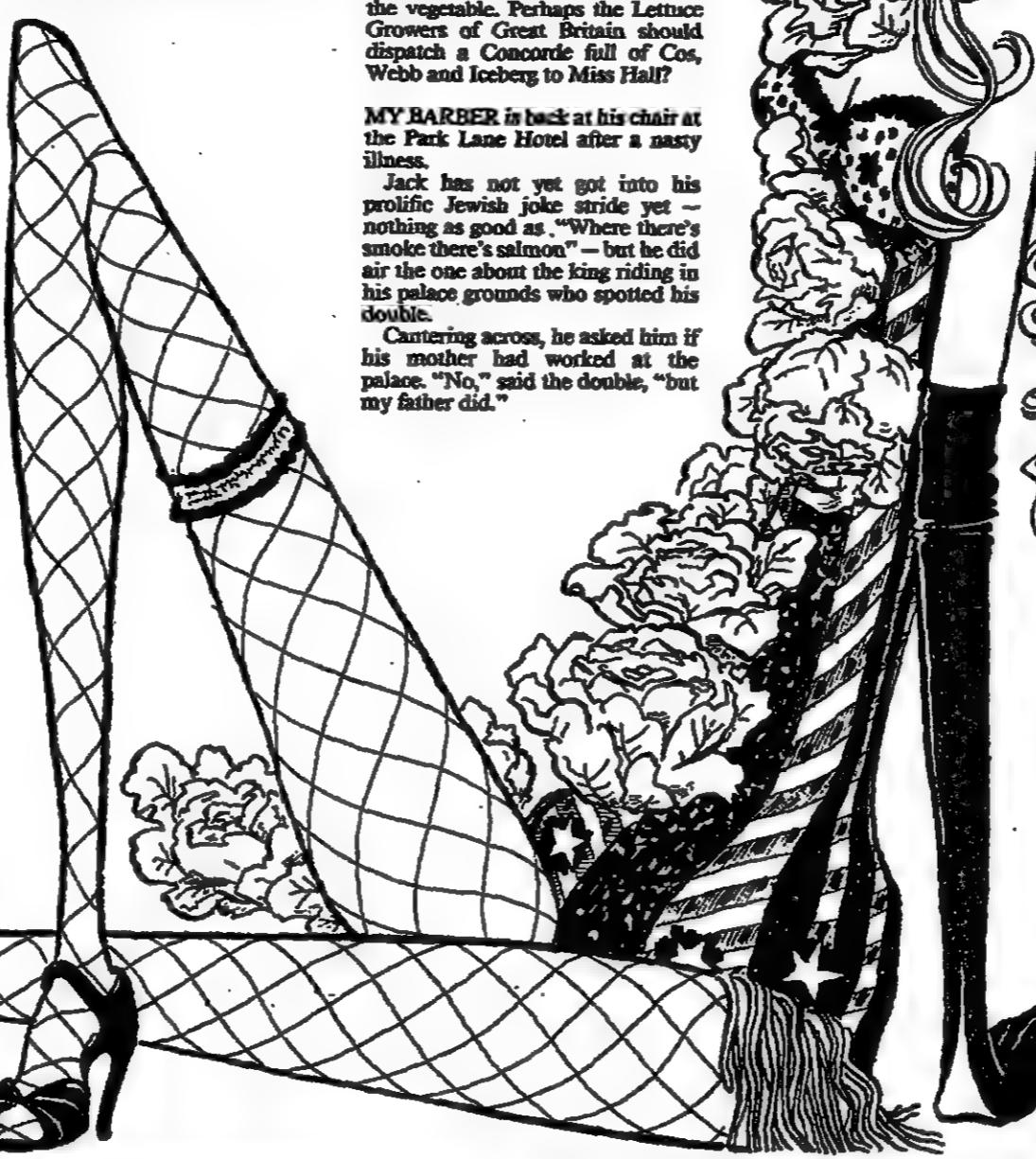
Milton Shulman said he spent two weeks with Marilyn Monroe when she was filming *Bus Stop* in Phoenix, Arizona. She spent most of the time on the phone to Arthur Miller, but Shulman had the car of her press agent.

At one point the president of the Lettuce Growers of America warned publicly to present Monroe with a crate of lettuce to celebrate an anniversary. When the publicist turned him down, the president suggested flying in a DC10 full of the vegetable. Perhaps the Lettuce Growers of Great Britain should dispatch a Concorde full of Cos, Webb and Iceberg to Miss Hall?

MY BARBER is back at his chair at the Park Lane Hotel after a nasty illness.

Jack has not yet got into his prolific Jewish joke stride yet — nothing as good as "Where there's smoke there's salmon" — but he did air the one about the king riding in his palace grounds who spotted his double.

Camtering across, he asked him if his mother had worked at the palace. "No," said the double, "but my father did."



CAMPUS

Stand up for the union

Birmingham students have voted to back the NUS, says Kerry Bretherton

All I'm saying is the NUS were around in 1984 and Orwell wasn't.



puts it in the same category as that other revolutionary and reactionary organization, the European Community. In the dim and distant days of my childhood, a referendum was held to discuss whether this country should join the EC. I've never heard anyone seriously suggest that only those who wanted Britain to join the EC should become members. People accept that the benefits of membership are gained by the country and it is simply not practical for me to be a member of the EC and you not to be a member. I could not say to a student at Birmingham University that I

would only help them with an academic appeal if they were a member of the NUS. The critics of the NUS ought to take a look at the real world and work on constructive suggestions for improving the student welfare network.

Of course, there are times when the NUS is its own worst enemy. Fortunately, it is finally realizing the importance of public relations. The National Fun Run it is organizing in aid of Oxfam projects in Southern Africa is to be held on the Birmingham University campus on March 11. This event will show the public that student unions

don't just do campaigning work. The NUS needs more members like Cosmo Hawkes, organizer of this event.

The next conference, at Easter, will elect a new national executive. Fortunately, for the first time in many years a strong group of independents is challenging for many of the key positions, including president. If public perceptions of the NUS are to improve and the union is to maintain its credibility, then students must recognize that student wings of national political parties are dated and redundant. A Labour president negotiating with a Conservative government or a Conservative president negotiating with a Labour government doesn't seem very logical. An independent would realistically be able to speak on behalf of all students, and would crush those arguments that suggest NUS is too party politicized. I favour Cosmo Hawkes for the next president of the NUS and I hope our union will be run by independents.

Students at Birmingham University have expressed their overwhelming support for the NUS and I hope their faith is rewarded.

• The author is president of the Birmingham University Guild of Students.

interested in charitable organizations? Would they say that Italians were materialistic? Who was this angry Englishwoman with a perpetual bee in her bonnet?

On my way to visit a friend in Italy, I found an English newspaper. One sentence in particular stood out. The Government urged the privatization of all old people's homes, and "clients" must pay for the services they receive. Things in England were equally grim. It was a relief to admit, as much, I brought in articles to show my conversation group. They were not surprised, but next time, could I please find a copy of *The Sun*?

Bridget Frost

• The author is a graduate from Cambridge University.

Lesson in humility

person in Asti, and I was undergoing one enormous lesson in humility.

Asti is a provincial town in the vine-growing region of Piedmont, northern Italy. I hadn't been there long before I became aware of the mutability of the word "provincial". From England, it had meant truly "Italian", small and friendly, a real community — everything it needed to be for me to forgive it for not being Florence, Venice or Rome.

But once installed, I woke up to find that most of the charm had gone. "Provincial" meant claustrophobic, proud, insular, and not a little sus-

picious of outsiders. "There is a saying," Paolo said, "that the Piedmontese have a false smile. You mustn't take offence; they are suspicious of their neighbours, let alone a foreigner."

My students were intrigued. "You had the whole of Italy before you," they said, "and you chose Asti? Why, why, indeed?"

The cold weather brought out the fur coats and made the beggars with empty boxes more obvious. Friday's conversation group was time for me to air my disgust. What was the social security system in Italy? Were people in

DAVID GOWER

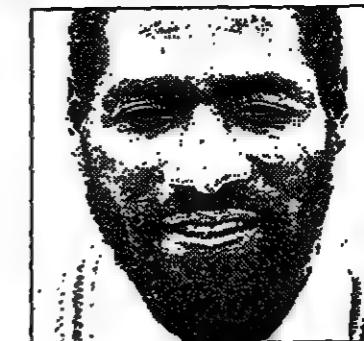
If I were...

If I were Viv Richards, the West Indies cricket captain, I would not be too despondent, despite the fact that my much fancied team has just been on completely the wrong end of the First Test contest with England.

Of course, I would be aware that the local fans were none too impressed with our performance, particularly after our whitewash of the same opponents last time they were here. In the Caribbean we prefer to call it a blackwash.

Well, there won't be one of those this time. But I don't think anyone should make too much of this unexpected defeat. I still have a strong side and we are confident of resuming normal service long before the series is over. I might dwell for a moment on the fact that four members of this new England team were not born in the country they now represent. Batsmen Allan Lamb and Robin Smith come from South Africa, and two of their successful bowlers, Devon Malcolm and Gladstone Small, actually have their origins in the West Indies, in Jamaica and Barbados.

In recent years it is we West Indians who have been



... Viv Richards

praised for the way we prepare for matches through fitness and practice. Now I notice the English are proving the worth of these same qualities. I would remind my team of the desirability of setting the standard again immediately.

In the next breath I might slip it to Malcolm Marshall that he looked a little tired and underprepared in Jamaica, not because I believe it, but because it might make him just that bit angrier for the next contest.

Before that next Test, I might even have a proper net practice myself instead of just taking Dennis, the Australian physiotherapist, on to the edge of the field for a gentle knock up, like a First World War lieutenant and his batman making light of the latest enemy offensive.

On second thoughts, I might decide against setting this energetic example to the troops. With my 109 Test matches, the best part of 8,000 Test runs and an average of 51 runs a match, I might stick with whatever makes me happy. And I can't wait to prove the point on my next visit to the crease.

The next Test match is to be played on about the best batting wicket in the Caribbean. Just to show I was taking things a little seriously, I might even consider raising myself in the batting order from number six which seems to be the compulsory position for senior West Indies captains.

One thing is certain: no one will find me downhearted. That is not what being a West Indian has taught me to be. My 38th birthday is next week on the day of the fourth one-day international. I intend to celebrate that day with a win, weather permitting, and set the scene for the start of the Test match three days later.

What is more, if that nice Mr Gower, who used to lose all those Tests to me, has managed to lay his hands on a bottle of Bollinger somewhere, that might help cheer me up as well.

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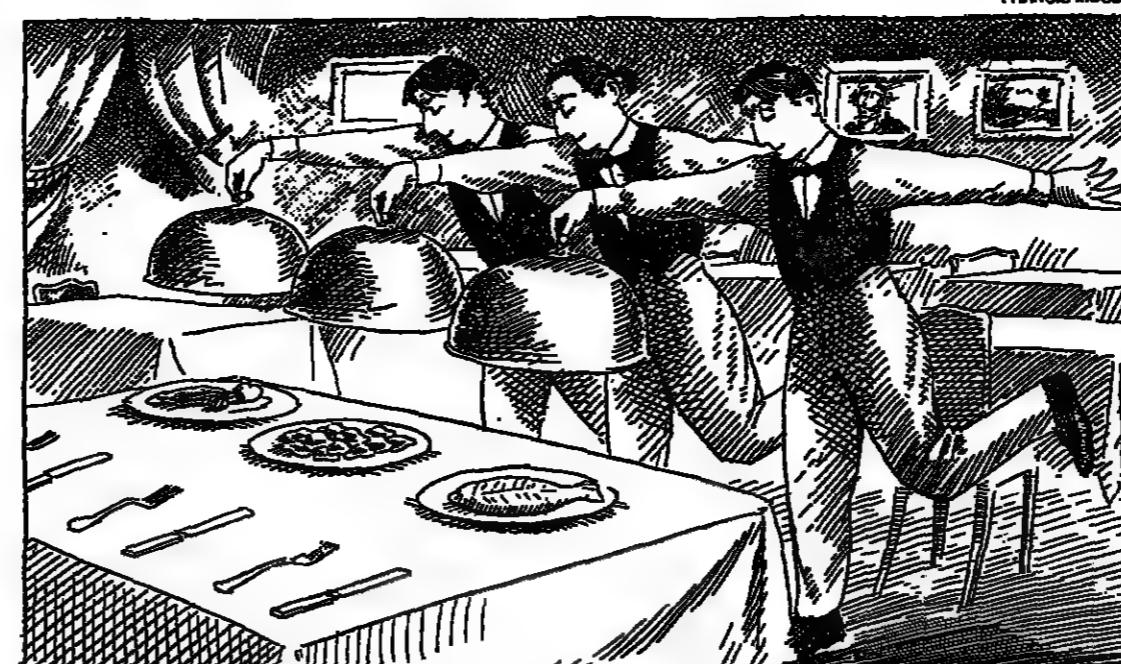
Pomp and pomposity

Jonathan Meades dines on ceremony and witnesses the antiquated ritual of the tripartite synchronized dome lift

In order, no doubt, to remind its customers that it is named after the local and tubercular poet (and not, say, after Don Scallywag), Keats, metal broker of Tottenham Hale, Keats has loaded its interior with shelves of books. Very tasteful. A restaurant named after Don could do itself out with lumps of sump, bales of swarf, swags of chain. But John demands sensitive treatment. So there are not only books but portraits (why Gladstone?), terracotta busts, prints, etc. The dining-rooms are high ceilinged and their tongue and groove walls are painted in crackle-effect — an undercoat of brick red has applied to it a coat of dirty cream into which is mixed an agent that makes it dry so quickly it does not fully cover the undercoat. The result spires ancient, peeling, weathered paint or the site of a fire. There is also a load of highly patterned carpet and a few furlongs of curtain tied by thick, tasseled dressing gown cord. It's rather dim, lit only by lights above each portrait. The sum of all this is a precious and faintly kitsch rendering of a country house library, a discreet set for a tony programme about connoisseurship, fine bindings and arty arcana. It does not make for a particularly relaxed atmosphere. Although the tables are well spaced, people tend to whisper; the illusion of a library (or something other than a restaurant) is so potent that punters probably begin to believe that they are dining in such a room and behave accordingly. This is abetted by the service, which is the far side of formal. The synchronized lifting of domes from dishes is a bore and should be eschewed. So, indeed, should domes; they had a function to fulfil when kitchens were separated from dining-rooms by draughty corridors, but in a modern restaurant (albeit one which seeks to recreate an ersatz past) they are embarrassing encumbrances. Similarly the practice of not allowing diners to pour their own wine is a genteel anachronism that should be quashed. There is a difference between serving staff refilling empty glasses from a bottle on the table and the ritual fetching of a bottle from halfway across the dining-room to pour therefrom only a finger of wine. I doubt if the ceremony surrounding dinner at

Keats is much good for the nerves of either punters or staff. And it certainly does little to promote appreciation of the fine and confident cooking. Equally, the ceremony seems to militate against utility; one of the people I was dining with was brought cheese as his main course. Quite what occasioned this aberration is a puzzle. What it meant was that all our main courses were taken back to the kitchen so that the staff would not be denied the chance of a tripartite synchronized dome lift. The *maître d'* was energetically apologetic about this both at the time and after we had finished, when he said: "Can I please you with something — a Cognac, perhaps..." The very location — *Can I please you?* — seems indicative of the problem this place has in reaching an accord with its customers. In speech, as in behaviour, the colloquial has an easing effect, the strenuously formal has the opposite.

This sort of service is a courteous version of that which is to be experienced in many hotels. The cooking has tendencies in that direction, too. It is elaborate and most of the dishes would fail in the hands of a lesser chef because of the sheer number of components. But the fellow here has a sure touch and a sound tongue. With one exception the dishes were balanced and well flavoured and possessed a definite edge. The exception was ravioles filled with celeriac and parsley — good in themselves but rather spoilt by a sauce whose syrupy texture overcame the alleged flavour of truffles. Otherwise the cooking was consistently pleasing. Steamed sole was sauced with red caviare and blackish caviare and makes one see the point of what is a persistently over-rated fish. Wild mushrooms are fried with artichoke heart and accompanied by a tomato vinaigrette. Beef fillet is served with a baby turnip, a potato latke and shallot that has been steeped in red wine. Skate comes with a verdant crust of herbs and a red wine sauce. Main courses are served with side-plates of boring vegetables. A sort of brandy snap collar is filled with berries and two sauces, a yellow one and a red one, vanilla and raspberry, maybe. Meagre portions of cheese are accompanied by an aromatically dressed salad.



This kind of cooking is decidedly not in the van of fashion; indeed, it is now getting to be the exception rather than the rule it was five or so years ago. Even when there were numerous chefs essaying this idiom there were not that many that got it so right as Herbert Berger does here.

No need to reiterate that the place is not to my taste, but that prejudices doesn't blind me to the likelihood that devotees of pomp and formality will consider Keats to be a leader in its field. By any standards the cooking is good, and by the standards of "special occasion" restaurants it is outstanding. Peripheral items are notable, too — nice walnut bread, well-confected sweets with coffee. There are no obvious bargains on a sound wine list. With half a bottle of Pouilly and a decent bottle of Bandol, the bill for three was £123. Two will pay about £80.

Heddon Street is a cul-de-sac off Regent's Street. It is associate with

a poet of a different sort to John Keats, perhaps no poet at all — David Bowie. It was here that Mr. Bowie, wearing an all-in-one quilted body stocking, was, 18 years ago, photographed for the cover of his *Ziggy Stardust* record. After that momentous night, Heddon Street slipped back into an obscurity from which the Copper Chimney has failed to deliver it. If restaurants succeeded on cooking alone, the Copper Chimney would be celebrated and Heddon Street with it; but, famously, they aren't. The importance of extra-gastronomic factors is often regrettable. In the case of the Copper Chimney they are regrettable, but understandable. First, its site is unpromising — Heddon Street does not attract Bowie fans the way Abbey Road attracts Beatles fans; there is no causal trade, not that it is the sort of restaurant which would rely on causal trade. Second, it is windowless, large and curiously dispiriting. Third, the service is offhand to the point of insolence; without speaking, the manager gestured that we should sit down in the bar area; he then sloped off and shrugged when I called after him asking for a drink. He has clearly chosen a staff in his own image. Ten minutes to get a drink despite gesturing, calling to waiters, going over to them and so on. Another 10 minutes while a cocktail operative knocked up two horrors that tasted like liquorice. Then a curt order to get to the table which, like every other table, felt horribly exposed. A modicum of

thought has been expended on applied decoration — grossly enlarged photos from Raj albums, "stone-effect" pillars, no thought has been expended on the layout of the place. A further protracted wait, this one alleviated by the comedy of the menu: "The *dhaba* is an eating place typically found on the highways of the Punjab and favoured by burly truck drivers."

Now, I may not know much about burly truck drivers in the Punjab, but I'm pretty certain that at their truckstops they don't get cooking of the standard of the Copper Chimney. On the other hand, they probably get what they order rather more quickly. Two hours over a two-course meal is an hour and a bit too long, even if the food is good. From the truckstop part of the menu came a biscuit-like savoury with chutney and shredded wheat. Fine, but you get the same in any subcontinental vegetarian caff for a quarter of the price. The other dishes would not be found in any caff, and only a very few other restaurants could match the standard of this place's chilli-infused fish bouillon or its tandoori fish or a creamy, musky, deep-flavoured dal of black beans. The vindaloo here is certainly a throat ripper, but it probably bears more resemblance to the Goanese vinegar-powered original than most you'll find. There's also a tasty stew of okra and chickpeas, which elevates the former veg to unusual heights. With two largers, two lassis and no tip, the bill for two was £45.10.

Stars — up to a maximum of 10 — are for cooking rather than service and atmosphere. Prices are for a three-course meal for two. They include an aperitif and modest wine in the case of French places, tea in the case of oriental ones and so on. Prices change: they usually go up. Dishes also may have changed — they are given only as an indication of the establishment's repertoire. I accept no responsibility for errors and claim no credit for happy surprises. Always phone first. J.M.

GREAT PORTLAND STREET

Francis Mosley
Chez Nico
35 Great Portland Street,
London NW1 (01-583 8267)

★★★★★

Nico Lefebvre's most opulent restaurant is the setting for what may be his finest cooking yet. The invention is brilliant, the execution is faultless, the taste is sure, the conviction is total. Every dish is composed of numerous ingredients, exquisitely prepared, generously served and altogether splendid. Duck confit with cap sauce and two kinds of potato: tournedos Rossini with a cote of salmon that has been marinated with smoked pork to enhance its flavour; mullet with a Herby vinaigrette; lamb with couscous; fantastical sweets in blinding colours. A restaurant to be recommended. A great restaurant and one which feeds as well as delights. £120.

Ninjin
24 Great Portland Street,
London NW1 (01-583 4657)

★★★★★

Japanese businessman's basement caff, whose cooking hits some real heights. Beef and potato stew, deliciously light dumplings, minced skewered chicken. £20.

AMERICAN

Ed's Easy Diner
16 High Street, Hampstead,
London NW3 (01-431 1952)

★★★★★

The phone number gets it right. This is a pestle of anywhere in America in 1988 seen through the eyes of a video maker or ad director. The burgers and milkshakes are all right but, no doubt, it is the feel rather than the food that is of moment. Ideal for 40-year-olds reliving their fantasy childhood. £20. (There are also branches in Old Compton Street, W1 and King's Road, SW3.)

Sticky Fingers
Troy Court, Phillimore
Gardens, London W8 (01-998 5330)

★★★★★

Bill Wyman's restaurant is a shrine to himself and to the rest of the Rolling Stones — photos, news clippings, gags, debts, guitars; the menu is not to be put in a frame; it is a loud and pretty frantic place: part burger-joint, part spag-rib-timer, part cajun-shack. By the standards of such gastronomic subcultures it's not too bad at all. £20 plus.

DIRECTORY

8 Egerton Gardens Mews,
London SW3 (01-583 8267)
★★★★★
Style, adobe-like basement serving rather questionable Californian dishes: tandoori salmon, tandoori lamb, tortilla lasagne, one or two good French ones such as rack steak with shallots and lamb with black bean sauce, £20-£25.

Kesmy's
70 Heath Street, London NW3 (01-435 6972)
★★★★★
Cajun restaurant with loud colour music. Good value, good beers, good cooking. The ubiquitous butter tastes like corn chips in a packet. There is little variety in the spicing, most dishes taste pretty much the same, i.e., hot and aggressive. Always phone first. J.M.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Flynn's
3 Fountain Street, Nailsworth,
Gloucestershire (0438 5567)
★★★★★
A pretty unpromising setting — the first floor of a former service building in another nearby Cotswold village. And the place is hardly remarkable. But the cooking is freshly thought-out, accomplished in its execution and generally good. Fish is likely to be a cut or two above the meat: squid with ginger sauce, halibut with capers and peppers, monkfish with a warm vinaigrette. The puddings are quite nice. £24-£25.

Redmond at Marwell View
Clove Hill, or Cheltenham (024 267 2071)
★★★★★

Redmond Hayward made his name with a little restaurant in Cheltenham. He and his wife have now taken over a modest hotel outside the town on the Cotswold escarpment. The food is terrific and the cooking — it is — is assured, restrained, original and delicious. Steak seared with ginger and lime butter sauce, beef fillet with garlic puree and parsley and more. Fish, too, is good: valence, orange, goat's cheese ravioli with tomato and garlic, hot banana soufflé, lemon tart with honey sauce. Commendable cheeses, unusual wines from the "other" American states. £25-£30. There are also reasonably priced rooms.

BATH

Homewood Park
Hilton Charterhouse, near
Bath, Avon (0225 723751)

★★★★★
The friendliest and most comforting of "country" hotels. The earthy building on the Avon valley. The staff is remarkable and the cooking is of real distinction — substantial dishes are given a light touch and the results are totally commendable. Lightly smoked haddock is done with lemon, lime, chives, butter, haddock, potato and cream gratin so unctuously delicious it deserves to be a course on its own, the wines are impressive. £50 lunch, £70 dinner.

CAFE SOCIETY

Still putting on the Ritz

Charles Hennessy
takes tea and
much more at the
intoxicatingly
theatrical Ritz

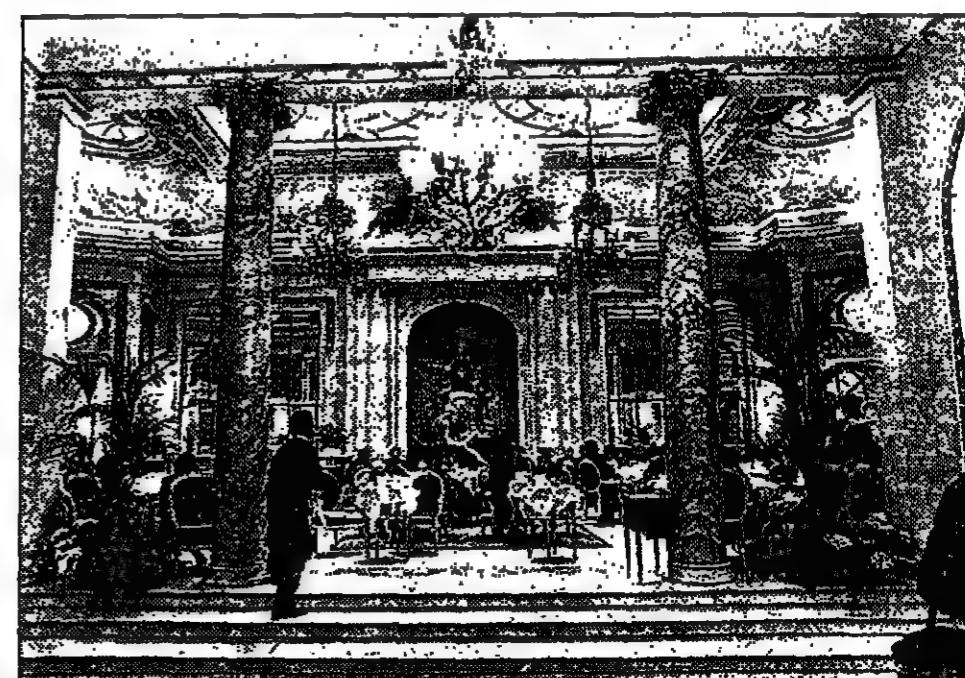
If you are offered a diamond as big as the Ritz you would be well advised to specify the Parisian establishment of that name. Its London sister, though perfectly formed, is as grand hotels go, of comparatively modest size. To Cesar Ritz it was a "small house to which I am proud to see my name attached".

The Ritz, serene but not forbidding on its site overlooking Piccadilly and Green Park, is undeniably ritzy. It is also, among London's great hotels, the most intoxicatingly theatrical and is unmistakably French in aspect and style, inside and out. Its roof evokes the Napoleonic additions to the Louvre, its arcade is a sort of truncated Rue de Rivoli and its interior is Louis Seize throughout.

Like the Paris Ritz before it, it was designed by a Frenchman from Alsace, Charles Mewes, and a Paris-educated Englishman, Arthur Davis. Both were products of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, the most influential architectural school of the time. But this formal, complex and beautifully organized building was also revolutionary. Its steel frame construction was clad with Norwegian granite on the ground floor, Portland stone above — was an American invention and was the first of its kind in London.

Walk into the Ritz today. "Everybody is excited to go to the Ritz," said Lord Favistock, who made a habit of it) and you are confronted — just as you would have been in 1906, when it opened its doors — by a series of interiors as unified in design as by Robert Adam or the masters of art nouveau.

It is best approached by the Arlington Street entrance. From here you walk parallel to Piccadilly, past the Winter Garden (now known as the Palm Court) with its extravagantly sculpted fountain in



The Ritz tea here is the last delicious morsel of Edwardian London, according to one historian. Echalion marble, panelled mirrors, glass roof and gracefully drooping fronds, among which nestle groups of gilded chairs (Louis XVI, of course, designed by Mewes and Davis and executed by Waring & Gillow). This is where you take tea.

You proceed in stately fashion down the long corridor to the restaurant, which is the climax of the whole building and offers a greater richness of material than elsewhere. Melting polychromatic marbles with poetic names Breche de Alep, Rose de Norvège and Verde de Suede. Sumptuous chandeliers linked to each other around the room by a chain of bronze garlands, so that the whole place seems to be permanently en file. A *trompe-l'oeil* ceiling, blue sky and pink-tinted clouds. Over the lot presides Neptune and his Nereids.

After the First World War, with competition from new night-clubs, the Ritz lost its place as the hub of night-time London, but at tea-time it reigned supreme. Barbara Cartland recalls that the Palm Court was "the place for tea. The cakes at Gunters were better, but the Ritz was smarter and grander". Tea-takers today might care to note that the best spot was just by the balustrade in those airy and pink-tinted clouds.

This is one of the few places (our historian notes), apart from church or Royal garden parties, where a woman may wear a hat and feel entirely at ease. When I was there the other day the women weren't wearing hats — but they looked as if they were.

You can't have more people in the Ritz, so these days there are two sittings, at 3pm and 4pm, and you have to book. You pay £15.00 a head, halfed or not. If you care to linger after tea

you could have a glass of champagne at the adjacent bar that, perhaps because it borders the central corridor, is much more animated than the usual stuffy hotel bar. And if you want to linger after tea, you can dine in the restaurant looking out on the Ritz garden and the park. Diners once included Noel Coward (who composed a number called "Children of the Ritz") and Nancy Mitford and John Betjeman and all the Sitwells and Cecil Beaton and Evelyn Waugh.

If you dine on Friday or Saturday you can dance afterwards, until 1am, to the music of a big band, in that very same Palm Court. And if you choose the right night, the band will be none other than the Vile Bodies, led by swinging Humphrey Carpenter, the distinguished biographer of C. S. Lewis, W. H. Auden and Evelyn Waugh.

Waugh particularly admired the way the Ritz cloakroom attendant, without benefit of numbered tickets, handed him his own hat. One day, when the man was not around, Waugh (comfortable by then in his country square person) served himself. On the brim of his hat he found a small card bearing the single word "Flord". They have a way with them at the Ritz.

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THE TIMES COOK

Frances Bissell uses the invigorating flavours of dandelions and nettles to prepare cleansing tonics that will spring you into the next season

Until relatively recently, early spring was always seen as a time not only for giving the house a thorough spring-clean, but for giving the body a spring-clean, too. Tonics for the hair, the skin, the blood and the digestive system were made up in the still room or the kitchen to be consumed by the members of the household with varying degrees of effectiveness.

No wonder such potions were considered necessary. As well as the bland Lenten diet, there was very little variety or availability of fresh foods, and the only fish and meat available had quite likely been heavily salted to preserve it. We need no such tonics today, with the richly varied diet of fresh meat and fish, abundance of vitamin-rich fruit and vegetables for eating raw or cooked, not to mention all the exotic pulses, pastas, cereals, herbs and spices that are available to us. Still, we like to eat heavier, more comforting food in winter, and probably far more meat and fat than we need. For today's recipes, I have taken some of those tonic ideas and used them in ways we can enjoy now.

A country walk might yield some young dandelion leaves and nettles. Both of these have a marvellously invigorating flavour, with a real taste of the wild. Pick well away from roadsides, however, to ensure that your booty has not been drenched in petrol fumes.

If you decide on nettles, pick only the tender top-most shoot and leaves. The coarse lower leaves and the stalk contain toxins. Use gloves to avoid being stung, but if you do inadvertently get caught, remember that rubbing with a dock leaf is an antidote, and these usually grow nearby. Rubbing with sage or rosemary leaves is also said to relieve nettle rash. As well as nettle soup, I have come across other recipes for this essentially rustic ingredient. In Burgundy, soups are served with a rich green nettle ragout by one of the region's top chefs. In Liguria, a light ravioli is stuffed with a purée of nettles mixed with ricotta and pine nuts.

I have included a pasta recipe today, a rather special dish suitable for the main course of a dinner party that carnivores and vegetarians alike will enjoy. If you are cooking it for vegetarians, you will need to take care with the cheeses you use and look for those containing vegetarian rennet rather than the usual rennet derived from animal sources. Traditional cheese-making on farms in Britain has produced a wealth of excellent and interesting

cheeses, many of them suitable for vegetarians. Ewes' cheese and goats' cheese, as well as cows' milk cheese, are available in a range of textures and fat contents — low, medium and full-fat, pressed and unpreserved, hard, semi-hard and soft, many of them made with vegetarian rennet. The best guide to help you track down these very special cheeses is a booklet called "On-Farm Cheese Makers of England and Wales". It is available from Alistair Jackson, Specialist Markets Department, MMB, Thames Ditton, Surrey KT7 0EL. Enclose a cheque for £7.50 made payable to Milk Marketing Board. This 80-page guide also includes details of mail-order and farm shops, as well as a section on handling and storing cheese. Readers in Scotland should contact the Scottish Milk Marketing Board, Underwood Road, Paisley, Ayrshire PA3 1TJ.

Back to the theme of spring foods: rich creamy desserts and hot steaming puddings seem quite out of place. A large bowl of sliced kiwi fruit with a squeeze of fresh orange juice would be a light and refreshing finish to an early spring meal. If you chill the fruit and prepare it just before serving, it will still be bursting with vitamins. One kiwi fruit contains more than the adult's recommended daily allowance of vitamin C. Once they are soft and ripe, I dislike that slightly opulent, corrupt flavour, so I always use them while they are still firm and tart.

Spring soup
(Serves 4 to 6)
2 leeks, white part only
2 celery stalks
½lb/230g rhubarb
1 bay leaf
4 cloves
1½-2pt/850ml-1.15l stock
salt
white pepper
pinch of powdered mace
chopped parsley

Note: If you use vegetable stock in this and the following recipe, they make dishes that vegetarians will enjoy.

Trim the outer leaves from the leeks and slice them with the celery and rhubarb. Rinse thoroughly and drain. Put them in a saucepan with the bay leaf, cloves and stock. Bring to the boil, and then process, blend or rub through



Nettles and barley soup
(Serves 6 to 8)

1½pt/850ml to 1.15l stock
2oz/60g pearl barley
sprig of sage
1 bay leaf
2oz/60g fresh young nettle tops
salt
pepper

Bring the stock to the boil, and throw in the barley and herbs. Lower the heat, and simmer until the barley is tender. Remove the herbs. Roughly chop the nettles, and put in the pot. Bring to the boil, simmer for two to three minutes, season to taste, and serve immediately.

Spinach and dandelion salad
(Serves 4 to 6)

Bring the stock to the boil, and sweat in the olive oil until the onion is just beginning to colour. Add the tomatoes and herbs, and cook without covering for two to three hours on a very low heat. Allow to cool slightly before blending in a food processor or blender, or simply rub through a sieve. Season to taste.

3oz/85g smoked streaky bacon
½lb/230g fresh young spinach leaves
a few handfuls of fresh young dandelion leaves
2 spring onions or 1tbsp chopped chives
1 tbsp sherry vinegar
salt
pepper

Put the butter in a heavy pan, and melt over a low heat. Stir in the flour until you have a smooth paste. Do not allow the flour to colour. Pour on a little of the milk and stir until smooth, then gradually add the rest, stirring continuously to avoid any lumps forming. When smooth, cook gently for eight to 10 minutes, stirring from time to time. Cool, cover and refrigerate until required.

Lasagna
1lb/450g aubergines
1½lb/680g courgettes
¾lb/340g baby leeks
1lb/455g lasagna
3tbsp olive oil
6oz/170g mozzarella, diced
6oz/170g ricotta, diced
3oz/85g Parmesan or other hard cheese, grated

Slice the aubergines ¼in/0.5cm thick, having removed the stalk end. Slice off the ends of the courgettes, and trim and wash the leeks. Bring a large pan of water to the boil, lightly salted or not, as you prefer, and put in the aubergines first. After two to three minutes, put in the rest of the courgettes and leeks and boil for a further two minutes. Lift out the vegetables with a slotted spoon or similar utensil, put them in a colander, and refresh under cold water to stop them cooking any further. Put to dry on layers of paper towels. Cook the lasagna sheets according to the instructions on the packet, a few sheets at a time, if necessary, in the same saucepan of water in which you cooked the vegetables. If using freshly-made lasagna, that is still soft and supple, cook for two minutes only. Lay the cooked lasagna sheets on a clean tea towel.

Use a cheese containing vegetable rennet to make this lasagna suitable for vegetarians. The sauces can be made the day before required. If it is more convenient, the lasagna can be assembled two to three hours in advance and refrigerated until you are ready to bake it. It is worth making plenty of tomato sauce, as any surplus can be kept for another day.

Vegetable lasagna
(Serves 4 to 6)

3 to 4 cloves garlic (optional)
1 onion

2 carrots

2 celery stalks

1 leek, white part only

2oz/60g fennel, if available

2-3tbsp olive oil

2 large (900g) cans peeled plum tomatoes

2 bay leaves

2 to 3 parsley stalks

sprig of thyme

sprig of sage or rosemary

salt

pepper

Peel and chop the vegetables, and sweat in the olive oil until the onion is just beginning to colour. Add the tomatoes and herbs, and cook without covering for two to three hours on a very low heat. Allow to cool slightly before blending in a food processor or blender, or simply rub through a sieve. Season to taste.

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DRINK

Stacks of sparkle and spring

Is there an alternative to champagne? Jane MacQuitty takes another look at méthode champenoise wines and checks out the best of the bargain buys for March

Who is champagne not champagne? When it is Charles de Fère méthode champenoise fizz. I first tasted these wines produced just outside the official border of the Champagne district, several years ago; the rosé was awful and the brut none too thrilling. Writers, merchants and drinkers have since stepped up their search for good, inexpensive méthode champenoise alternatives to champagne. Rarely are they successful. It is time to look again at the Charles de Fère range.

The rosé is still grim. Its weird, cheesy-beefy scent and taste are not worth the £3.65 asked by Berkman Wine Cellars, 12 Brewster Road, London N7. Supermarkets' own-label pink champagne may cost £10 a bottle and the cheapest grandes marques are £14 plus, but half-price rosé alternatives need to have at least half the finesse and flavour of the real thing, and this one fails miserably. However, the Charles de Fère Blanc de Blanç Brut Réserve (£3.54) is a useful upper-class sparkler with some breeding and style. Its light, fresh, flowery-musky scent and taste do not make it champagne, though. It reminded me of one of the better quality Blanquette de Limoux sparklers, which is logical as its chief component is Roussillon and Limoux's Mourvède grape.

The jewel in the crown of Jean-Louis Denoix, who de-camped to Fère-en-Tardenois to make non-champagne sparklers in 1979 and whose family still produces champagne, is his amazing Tradition Brut. I would not like to meet this bubbly's rich, biscuity, champagne-like scent and equally full, bouncy palate in a blind tasting: it smells and tastes like the real thing, partly because of its mix of Chardonnay and Pinot Noir grapes, but also because of Denoix's expertise. This is one of the finest champagne taste-takers I have come across and at £6.54 is about a third of the price of Robert

March, despite its occasional warm, sunny days, is still traditionally a red wine month.

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loved its brilliant, deep carmine colour, backed up by a musky-grassy scent and lashings of ripe, peppery Gamay fruit on the palate. Don't expect any of the warmer, bubbly-musky Gamay fruit of Beaujolais as you will be disappointed, but at £2.99 from Waitrose it is a good buy.

Free tastings for customers continue to be the most simple and successful way of encouraging wine drinkers to experiment. So simple, in fact, that I wonder why other wine outlets do not follow the example of Majestic Wine Warehouses and Oddbins. Majestic's next tasting weekend is on March 10 and 11. Thirteen different wines will be available for tasting, including Oman Khayam's '86 méthode champenoise fizz from India (£5.99), which is disappointing when you consider the earlier, surprisingly good Khayam wines which explain why they stand out from the rest of the New South

Mondavi's '88 Woodbridge Sauvignon Blanc (£4.99) from California's Central Valley, whose exotic, tropical fruit scent and soft, grassy taste do not make a great Sauvignon, but a good one.

A non-vintage generic Médoc, which Majestic prices at just £2.99, is much better value. This wine comes from the Caves et Entrepôts de Malaïc, as does Majestic's toothsome, non-vintage red wine, Malaïc, on sale for £2.35. I enjoyed this pleasant, light, easy-drinking claret with its musky, grassy-blackcurrant Cabernet fruit. Look out, too, for Majestic's discounted bin-end bottles, 100 wines including bargains such as '88 Rothbury Chardonnay for £3.99 (instead of £4.59). March does not have to be austere and penny-pinching, however, and if you are feeling flush make certain you snaffle up some of Waitrose's superb '84 Sancerre de Gruaud Larose claret, which has a rich, mature, cedar St Julian flavour with a dash of chocolate and cinnamon in the mix. A good ready-to-drink example of the quality a leading St Julian property can achieve in a poor year, this wine is good value at £8.75.

Oddbins is also worth visiting this month. It has specialized in Australian wines for the past five years, and the latest offerings include a small parcel of bin-ends that are worth plundering. The cheaper wines are likely to have gone by now, but home in on Simon Whitlam's delicious '87 Cabernet Sauvignon. This Hunter Valley wine was founded in 1982 by wine merchant Andrew Simon and banker Nicholas Whitlam. Simon Whitlam's labels, in this case a grey and dusky pink triangle, are usually hard to take, but the wine within never is. I loved this Cabernet's elegant cassis and spicy oak character, as distinguished and restrained as all the other Simon Whitlam wines, which explains why they stand out from the rest of the New South



ERIC BEAUMONT

Wines pack. Forget your bank balance and splash out on this bottle (£8.99).

Apart from Australian bin-ends, Oddbins is this month concentrating on the regional wines of France with a tasting of half a dozen of these wines on March 17 and 24. Good bottles include the impressive, velvety, oriental spice of the '87 Mas de Daumas Gassac (£3.99) which I wrote about recently, plus the splendid '88 Château Bellevue La Forêt Côtes du Frontonnais in its "prestige" bottling (£5.99). The prestige version of this red wine is aged in oak, and it shows. I enjoyed its wonderful, deep, rich, exotic, spicy-herbaceous style enfolded in lots of ripe, ripe French fruit. Besides claiming your tasting sample of this wine, it is £3.15, or take advantage of the multi-buy scheme that gives you a £1 discount if you buy three bottles.

WINE BUYS

• 1986 Cooks Hawke's Bay Chardonnay, Thresher, £4.99. New Zealand Chardonnay occasionally gets overlooked by wine drinkers, who have about the country's Sauvignon but tend to forget its cooler wine. Cooks has always had a good Chardonnay in its range, and this buttercup-gold, big, buttery wine has lots of spicy new oak on the palate.

• 1987 Château de la Pape, Cérons des Princes, Thresher, £2.99.

This classy Châteauneuf is

on promotion this month at £3.45. Thresher along with the Cooks Chardonnay. This pale, gamay red wine has a fine, warm, spicy style, with enough fruit on the palate to make it a very enjoyable mouthful.

• 1988 Saint-Désiré, Cave de

Robin Young tries the convenient approach to vegetarianism

Meaty without the flesh

shops tell the same story: at least three quarters of the people buying vegetarian products are not fully conforming vegetarians.

Such statistics have influenced the supermarkets. Where vegetarians were inconvenient, now there are chiller cabinets full of convenience foods prepared with them in mind.

Having just completed three weeks' worth of eating a vegetarian diet, and I have not strained my culinary ingenuity once. In fact, I have not really cooked anything: merely microwaved or heated it in an oven, following instructions on the packets.

Vegans, I admit, could be tricky — but vegetarians? No problem.

There are now reckoned to be at least 1.5 million people in Britain who eat no meat. The number is growing, though no one is sure how fast. The militant Vegetarian Society has doubled its membership (to 16,000) in the past four years, but they are only the publicity demonstrative tip of an iceberg.

In surveys, as many as one in three people says they are now aiming to eat less meat. The evidence suggests that about three million of them are actually managing it. Six per cent of the population is expected to become vegetarians in the next few years. Beware the *ratatouille*, whose principal ingredient, listed first in the fine print, is water, which should only be there as a component of the vegetables. It means excessive reliance on puree and thickener, and the result is not at all nice.

Tesco runs 11 vegetarian recipe dishes, with broccoli mornay as a variant on the almost inevitable cauliflower cheese. I tried the vegetable chilli (much like the others already mentioned), a carrot and onion crumble with crumbled cheese and almond topping (rather dry and drab) and a couple of passable vegetable bakes. Best, though, were onion bhajis and vegetable samosas bought from the delicatessen counter.

Sainsbury had a score of

ideas. Its vegetable chilli with cracked wheat contained more tomatoes than red kidney beans and (at £1.39 for 350g to serve one) was the most civilized version of this dish that I tried. The *ratatouille* replaced water with tomato juice, to small advantage. I quite liked the vegetable mousakas and, if pressed, would not balk at passing friends a plate of Sainsbury's crispy-crumb mushrooms with garlic dip — at least not if there was plenty of wine about.

I was seriously disappointed, though, by Sainsbury's neeps and tatties, which was supposed to be a traditional Scottish dish topped with grated cheese. I wondered afterwards whether the cheese had been the whitish sledge adhering to the lid when I discarded it. Sainsbury's onion bhajis also proved large, floury and uninteresting.

The tango at Marks & Spencer runs to at least 15 recipe dishes and an almost equal number of vegetarian snacks. Filled courgettes with tomato sauce and filled green peppers were the most likely products I encountered to convince vegetarians I had been cooking specially for them. St Michael tends to blandness: the nut cutlets, sadly, are largely the nut mentioned in the ingredients being almond. Similarly, I would have welcomed twice the amount of herbs in the vegetarian dumplings accompanying an otherwise good fresh vegetable casserole. Most successful were the vegetable crisps which I have bought since (dare I say it?) to set beside lamb cutlets.

Finally, though, my recommendation is that would-be vegetarians should visit Waitrose. I object strongly to the misleading name of the tagliatelle nicoise (no capers or anchovies, but creamy cheese sauce yet again) but it tasted all right. I also recommend the neatly packed and well-filled vegetable samosas, and enjoyed the vegetable shepherd's pie.

More importantly, Waitrose vegetable curry with pilau rice, and dal matikan and palak paneer which I coupled, rather unorthodoxly, with Thai-style lemon and lime rice provided my two tastiest and most memorable meals of the vegetarian experiment. If all vegetarian meals were as good, all God's creatures would be safe from me.

Crans, the leading name in

vegetarian wholefood for

nearly 30 years, has recently

opened a take-away in the Broadgate development near Liverpool Street in the heart of the City of London. It reckons that here, as in its other branches, more than 90 per cent of the customers are not, so to speak, full-blooded vegetarians. Vegetarian food manufacturers such as

Crans and the health food

By the dozen



Eric James on what is revealed and concealed about the life of an archbishop, and his portrait

The authors of these two volumes — which concern the same subject: the last Archbishop of Canterbury but one — could hardly be more different, so that the volumes themselves are utterly different.

Michael De-la-Noy was press secretary to Michael Ramsey from 1967 to 1970. But the term "press secretary" inadequately describes the relationship he had with the archbishop and his wife, who were childless; sometimes, De-la-Noy was treated more as a son than as a secretary, until the abrupt end of his time in the archbishop's employ.

De-la-Noy will have known that the "life" of the Archbishop, by no less a person than the Revd Dr Owen Chadwick OM, Regius Emeritus Professor of Modern History at Cambridge, was soon to appear, and that he would be well advised to call his volume not a "life" but a "portrait"; and had better look sharp (in more senses than one) and get it out before Chadwick's "life" appeared. More than half De-la-Noy's "portrait" is biography of Ramsey before he knew him, when, understandably, it swings more to personal reminiscence. Also, the pressure to publish has produced a book bespattered with mistakes and misprints.

But the essential difference between the two volumes lies elsewhere. When Archbishop Randal Davidson, before he died, gave his successor, Cosmo Gordon Lang, his blessing, he twice repeated: "God give you judgement". Clearly he believed that to be the gift above all others with which an archbishop needed to be endowed. It may be maintained that if an archbishop's staff are to assist him, they too will need the gift of judgement — and no less after his death (Michael Ramsey's widow, Joan, thankfully, is still alive) — in how they share their privileged experience. It will not do simply to proclaim upon the housetop what was spoken in the ear in closets. Both these volumes are therefore a fascinating study in judgement: not just the arch-

Closer to God

MICHAEL RAMSEY

A Life
By Owen Chadwick
Oxford, £17.50

MICHAEL RAMSEY

A Portrait
By Michael De-la-Noy
Collins, £12.99

bishop's, but that of each author.

They both skilfully describe Ramsey's strange childhood, his schooldays, his days at Cambridge, and the ensuing tragedy of his mother's death, necessitating a period of psychoanalysis for the future archbishop. Chadwick inevitably outshines De-la-Noy on what the latter calls "The Making of a Theologian". Ramsey's days at Lincoln Theological College, as professor at Durham and Cambridge, and as author of major theological works. In describing Ramsey's decision concerning the bishopric of Durham, leading swiftly to the archbishopric of York, Chadwick is also superb. Well over half Chadwick's pages are devoted to Ramsey as Archbishop of Canterbury; a masterly account of his response to the world and the church in the Sixties to the homosexual question, abortion, capital punishment; to the race question — at home, in South Africa, in Rhodesia; to the theological ferment of the decade; to the ecumenical situation.

"When the Pope (Paul VI) said goodbye," Chadwick writes, "he gave Ramsey his most generous gift

of all. He slipped off the episcopal ring, with its emeralds and diamonds, and put it in Ramsey's palm, and Ramsey put it on his finger. No Pope could have said anything bolder about that vesting score over the validity of Anglican Orders." Chadwick leaves you in no doubt that Ramsey was a great archbishop, and, what is more, a man of God, who grew even closer to God in the last quiet years of his life.

But Chadwick, in his discretion and wisdom, omits much that De-la-Noy, in his calculated indiscretion, includes: for instance, the archbishop's neglect, within his own diocese of Canterbury, of his suffragan bishops. "The lack of liaison between Lambeth Palace and the suffragan bishops was at times nothing less than a disgrace," writes De-la-Noy. Chadwick says little of Ramsey's relations with his staff — wife, for instance, John Andrew, his chaplain at York and at Canterbury. On the other hand, De-la-Noy writes: "For eight years he served in many ways as the most influential member of Ramsey's household, for he enjoyed the total confidence and affection of the Ramsey and allowed himself to become something of a buffer rather than a stepping-stone between Ramsey and the bishops. This the bishops came to resent." Chadwick mentions De-la-Noy only twice: once to contradict him, De-la-Noy had written: "Ramsey was essentially a lonely and sad man with no close friends apart from his wife." "This is a wrong judgement," Chadwick retorts.

Chadwick may well be right on that point — his judgement is rarely to be faulted; but he would be more convincing had he allowed Ramsey not only his eccentricities but his faults. De-la-Noy is Lambeth with the lid off. Some of the garbage has fallen out of the bin, and some of it has been helped out. (Most human habitations, even episcopal palaces, have their garbage.) Chadwick is Lambeth with the lid on, and screwed down — with such turned and polished screws.



Closer to God than most: Michael Ramsey, one of our great archbishops

In the blockbuster stakes

THRILLERS

Chris Petit

particular reference to widely-reported sightings of UFOs in the vicinity of US nuclear air bases in 1947. I'm as willing to suspend disbelief as the next fellow, but Streiber is so intent on conversion to his cause that he fails to come up with a proper story. The abundance of creative writing lacks suction; for an altogether better example of the genre, try William Kotzwinkle's *The Exile*. Perhaps Streiber thought that persuasion was harder than is the case: there are a lot of readers out there willing, if properly led, to believe anything they're told about the CIA. Beta minus.

According to interviews, Whitley Streiber has had encounters with aliens from other planets and is tired of the scepticism that greets this claim. Majestic (Macdonald, £12.95) fleshes out that old chestnut of a conspiracy by the US Government to suppress knowledge of little green men, with

though the bits in between inverted commas don't pass for dialogue: "You've never been in my hair but that's where I'd like you to be, Sam." Beta minus brackets minus.

The Arms of Death (Bloomsbury, £12.99), after a shaky start in which Mark Wainwright finds his voice, settles down to sullen stuff in Libya where a bunch of raty Americans, with apparent connections to US intelligence, while away the time teaching Arabs to blow things up; meanwhile, bombs go off around Europe. Here the bits in between inverted commas are superior for the genre, uses of expletive and a casual racism. Wainwright is good on the absurdities of civilization — Third World supermarkets — and cynical sex, but thin on character: who's who is a problem. An overheated air of existential nihilism suggests that Paul Bowles has been mugged up along the way. This ambitious and promising first novel also makes reference to the studied cruelties of James Bond when, in fact, it owes more to the narrative ellipses and laconic style of early Deighton. Beta double plus.

Next week: Boris Yeltsin, P. J. Kavanagh, Oscar Wilde's devoted friend, Nigel Williams, John Mortimer, science fiction, children

PAPERBACKS

their recent verse. Wright has a nice Byronic contempt for poetry itself: *When they say That every day Men die miserably without it: I doubt it.*

This is grown up, but if it was all he could do it would hardly be enough. Rather more interesting is his attempt, in the title poem, to use a similar wit to keep things moving along even where inspiration dries up. Here is a resourceful and clever writer, with an educated ear, who is always entertaining and occasionally something more. His best stanzas look drunk and sound drunk but I suspect that a sober imagination — and certainly a sober technique — were needed in order to achieve them.

Do not be deceived by the doggerel in McCarthy's *Seven Winters in Paris*. Here are ladies with "Natasia Kinski eyes" and others with "Marie Corelli faces", and the poet himself is a gentleman who doesn't mind rhyming "happychanging" with "Sudocream". Imagination is inflated in these decent little meditations on modern life just in order to prick it upon the actual, which he usually equates with the absurd.



Still fretting at the conventions: Michael Frayn, whose plays are almost as funny on the page as on the stage

Boxed set of farce

Hamish Lennox

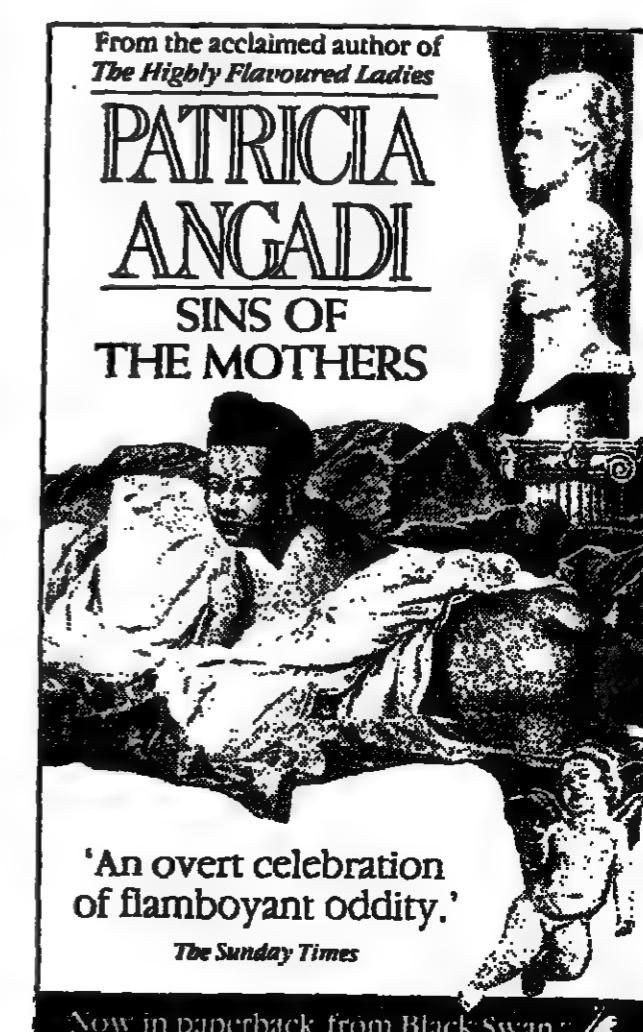
JAMIE ON A FLYING VISIT/BIRTHDAY

By Michael Frayn
Methuen, £5.99

master husband (Dinsdale Landen, if you please). In brisk succession Jamie accidentally trashes the front hedge, spills or breaks any number of household effects, and caps his performance by destroying the bannisters while helpfully manoeuvring a bed down the staircase. With a broken leg in plaster he still insists on taking the wife for a spin in his Jaguar, a trip which does for the lamp-post across the road and wrecks the husband's car.

This is all rather Laurel and Hardy, and almost as funny on the page, but the comedy deteriorates when Jamie invites his horay pals around for drinks.

The house begins to burn at the seams, and the displaced sexual sadism of his antics mutates into class churlishness. In *Birthday*, a trifle with a softer centre, the principle tension is between the monstrous self-absorption of the pregnant visitor and the rational arguments of her sister's flatmates, childless experts on child psychology. This element is unfortunately old-hat, and the whole script is nothing like so visually inventive as *Jamie*. Appropriately enough, the BBC is to revive the second play for radio, while the first will reappear on television. Frayn is a loss to that medium.



'An overt celebration of flamboyant oddity.'

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Wall of silence

TELEVISION

Sheridan Morley

Ten years ago, the problems of child abuse were largely ignored in this country by those unwilling or unable to accept the level and intensity of the problem. Now, much the same situation faces those trying to deal with abuse of the old and infirm.

By the year 2000, as *Public Eye* (BBC 2) observed in its chilling survey, there will be a million people in Britain over the age of 85, many of them unable to look after themselves. More and more frequently, hospitals are now receiving elderly patients with unmistakable signs of bruising and even broken arms and legs, caused by a usually caring younger relative suddenly unable to deal with the pressures of living with a parent who demands 24-hour attention.

The answer, as several consultants remarked on the programme, is not as simple as the apportioning of blame. Many of the guilty relatives are loving children and grandchildren driven to distraction by the lack of professional assistance and the feeling of being totally trapped with a parent day and night.

But the stigma understandably attached to the abuse of the elderly means that few are willing to talk about it: the victim for fear of being cast out of the family home, and the perpetrator for shame at the realization of what has suddenly happened in a once-loving household. A wall of silence still surrounds the problem, but it is one that Seán Ó Catháin's documentary began to break.

Later, as a curtain-raiser to tonight's *Rhythms of the World* concert, *Areas* (BBC 2) profiled Sallie Keita, known as the golden voice of Mali, and an albino singer apparently able in childhood to scare most of the animals off his father's farm by the sheer volume of his fervent singing. Tonight's concert promises, therefore, to be noisy, even if Keita himself appears to have had some sort of chastisement-type operation.

Back in BBC 1's *Whicker's World* (or "Egg Trip", which might have been the better travel title) the blundering maestro found himself a really good interview. It was with Jack Edwards, a survivor of Japanese prison camps, who returned to Hong Kong to fight for pensions and passports for those families of all nationalities who fought alongside him in the defence of the Crown Colony in 1941. Sadly, this fight may prove equally doomed under government policy.

But Whicker has at last found some old newsreels of the Chinese escaping to Hong Kong from the very country which is now about to reclaim them, and he is wisely plundering his own earlier footage to establish how the colony has changed both economically, industrially and socially as well.

Sound-mix cue for mutiny

JAZZ

Clive Davis

Hilton Ruiz

QEII

By the time he left the stage, Hilton Ruiz had finally won over his audience. It was, however, a close-run thing. The opening date in his Contemporary Music Network tour came very close to falling apart. The problems were not entirely the pianist's

fault. During the first half, in particular, he had to contend with an atrocious sound-unit which rendered half of the eight-piece band inaudible, and swamped the rest of the musicians with feedback. Although this is becoming a regular event at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, some of the audience were close to mutiny by the interval.

The other difficulty was probably self-inflicted. This simply did not look like a group which had given itself enough time to rehearse. Cues were regularly fluffed, and for much of the time the front line of trumpetist Dick Griffin, saxophonist Peter Brabin and trumpeter Danny Moore seemed to have no idea what Ruiz was planning to do next.

Ultimately, the show was held together by the group's

Starting on a poor note, pianist Hilton Ruiz, plagued by technical difficulties, nevertheless delivered a performance that was both powerful and moving. His playing was full of energy and passion, and he managed to overcome the initial technical problems to deliver a compelling performance.

That fusion of salsa and jazz has become Ruiz's trademark in a series of albums for Novus. A New Yorker of Puerto Rican descent, he studied piano with Mary Lou Williams and served most of his musical apprenticeship with the unpredictable Roland Kirk. On his last LP, *Strut*, he continued

to refine the formula, moving towards the more commercial, funk-oriented end of the market without sacrificing the hard bop content on, for instance, "The Sidekick".

With the first half of the concert a virtual write-off, Ruiz moved on with a schmaltzy, unaccompanied rendition of "Lush Life", followed by "Sophisticated Ladies". After that gentle interlude, the group was let off the leash, provoking a barn-storming solo from Moore.

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So who cares whodunit?

THEATRE

Jeremy Kingston

Moscow Shadows

New End Theatre

Understandably, plays about Moscow life are flavour of the month. But this particular one is not made in Russia and exported by courtesy of *glasnost*: it is authored by Harris W. Freedman, Brooklyn-born and bred, and rings false from

beginning to end. We are in Anna Petrova's flat one February afternoon a year ago. Her grandson, Igor, has had the good fortune to walk out a couple of minutes before the play begins, and the even greater good fortune of staying away for the duration.

He therefore misses the arrival of Natasha Ivanova from the flat next door and is spared the aggressive delivery that Josephine Tewson brings to the role, trumpeting information her neighbour already knows: "Your Vladimir resigned from the party when Khrushchev sent the tanks to the streets in Budapest." Or she asks some such rhetorical question as: "If socialism is the answer, why did it take Olga Alexandrova two years to obtain a visa to Tashkent?" Not many people know the answer to that.

Anna Petrova illegally takes in boarders; Natasha Ivanova illegally trades in ikons. Olga Alexandrova is another character who stays in the wings, but that is because she has been murdered. "Who would want to murder Olga Alexandrova?" somebody asks, in order to cue in a curtain line from Viktor Nicholaičik, the local Rozz. "That," he announces, glaring at suspects over his seriously Russian moustache, "is exactly what I am here to find out."

Why was this play written? Not, I suppose, to convey to a wider audience such titbits as the number of citizens who must live on only 75 roubles a month. This is the gossip favoured by Natasha's shy son, Alexei Isaevich, to instruct his girlfriend — Mariya Lvovna, if you are still with me. No, the principal characters are Jewish, and Freedman is honourably moved by their sufferings, now as always. But his worthy aims translate into drama to very poor effect, and it is a dreadful idea to graft the steamroller tactics of a Brooklyn momma into a Moscow whodunit.

Because Anna Petrova is conceived in less off-putting terms, and Barbara Lott does not rattle through the speeches, her mention of social issues seems to derive from her experience. On the other hand, fur-draped Mariya Lvovna (Denise Stephenson), gazing at her man in the corridor, "Take me! Now!" is straight from pulp fiction.



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Brush with the unusual

THE ARTS

The star of London's newest musical, Sondheim's *Sunday in the Park with George*, is a huge painting. But is the National Theatre painting itself into profit or loss? Peter Lewis reports

A week of intense activity at the Lyndhurst reaches a climax tonight with the first preview of Stephen Sondheim's *Sunday in the Park with George*. Scenically, it is the most elaborate show mounted by the National Theatre for years. It has to be: the musical stars a famous painting.

In order to recreate Georges Seurat's crowded canvas, "Sunday afternoon on the island of La Grande Jatte", 10 scene painters worked for six weeks on the National's huge paint-frame, producing six versions of the painting, on varying scales.

They have stuck faithfully to Seurat's controlled palette of 11 colours plus white, but pointillism on this scale takes application. All those dots have to be flicked into place, and very few can be applied by paint-roller; even a spotty one.

The raverscapes glimpsed through the trees run upstage on a cyclorama, well into what is normally the backstage scene dock. The Lyndhurst's depth of stage can outdo even the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

Having begun with the stage as a blank canvas, the living picture is finally assembled at the first act curtain. As Act II begins, it is hanging on the wall of its Chicago gallery — but this, too, turns out to be a *tableau vivant*, which bursts into song. Few theatres have the dimensions to accommodate illusion-building on this scale, so Sondheim jumped at the chance. He says it was his dream to see what was on stage at the Lyttelton.

The National's executive director, David Ankin, at first invited Sondheim's collaborator, James Lapine, to restore the Broadway production with its original principals. But, after a year of failing to get everyone back together, he and Richard Eyre, artistic director of

the National, decided to stage their own production, with director Steven Pimlott and designer Tom Cairns. It is not a reproduction of the Broadway show of 1984, the only common participant being Sondheim himself.

Mounting musicals in subsidized theatres is a contentious process, as the RSC found out. Even a musical that makes as much money as *Les Misérables* was castigated for keeping the Bard out of the Barbican for months if a show fails, public ire is even greater.

Musicals require a largely specialized cast, are notoriously expensive, and appeal to a different audience from the regular patrons. At the National, there have been two precedents: one was its biggest hit, the other, its most resounding disaster. In 1982, *Grease* and *Dolls* played 370 sold-out performances before transferring. It was a critical success, as well as being off the theatre's deficit.

The notorious misjudgement, *Jean Seberg*, bombed in 1983 and lost most of what *Grease* and *Dolls* had made. The National was not only blamed artistically, it was condemned for allowing its stage to be used for a comparatively cheap try-out of a Broadway gamble. Worse, it was committed to giving the show 75 performances to half-empty houses.

Sunday in the Park is the first reprise to be attempted since that

unhappy turkey. This time there are no deals or plans for commercial exploitation. The show is seen as a purely National Theatre enterprise which could pay its way within the scheduled run.

The initial cost of staging is £250,000-£300,000 (a bargain by commercial theatre standards), and advance bookings already top £200,000. The show opens halfway to its target of £1.2 million, thanks in part to a contribution of £100,000 from the producer and Sondheim devotee, Cameron Mackintosh. "He is doing it for love of the show," Ankin said.

But no chickens are being counted yet. *Sunday in the Park* runs for only 15 months on Broadway, despite growing reviews. No London management wanted to risk it here, where Sondheim musicals, other than *A Little Night Music*, have not done well at the box office. But Ankin argues that it is exactly the sort of musical the National Theatre should be doing.

"It's a musical for playgoers... Sondheim is up there among the straight playwrights, like Albee. I think we should drop the artificial distinction between straight and musical theatre as two different genres. At its best, musical theatre ranks alongside straight drama and it is proper for the National Theatre to include in its repertoire the finest examples.

He admits to personal adoration



"It's a mistake to do musicals to generate income," David Ankin says. "It's a mistake to do musicals to generate income. They must be distinctive and distinguished. There was a nervous sense backstage this week that the stakes are high. As someone remarked in the paint shop, 'Que Seurat, Seurat'.

Beached banality

RADIO

Martin Cropper

Lenny Bruce on Bondi (Radio 3, Tuesday) was a title in search of a story. What it found was an imploding fantasy born of semi-mental regression. An ageing magazine journalist (Australian ex-pat in London) is sent audio cassettes of an unnamed American holding forth on a surf-heavy beach. His foxy editor posts him to Sydney to investigate their provenance in the company of a glamorous researcher, whose husband just happens to be a leading authority on Lenny Bruce, as well as a dentist.

The sender of the tapes just happens to be an old school chum and is now a mediocre comedian. In 1951 (he now says) he hung out on the beach with the then unknown Bruce, recording improvised comedy routines on his old reel-to-reel. After the longest dramatic pause in showbiz history, he now wishes to go public.

The spirit of Lenny Bruce being entirely absent from all this, it was a tactical error to end the play with a genuine chunk of that master of surrealism in concert. Adrian George's play was both naturalistic and thoroughly unlike, a combination which leads to banality.

The journalists spoke like policemen giving evidence, while the Australian comic's conversational style seemed to have been lifted from a magazine page. This undoubtedly saved his old friend much time when it came to writing up the story. On the beach: "Here comes Sammy with what looks like a carrier-bag full of cassettes." The inner eye looked up in astonishment.

Last night, as though to make amends, Radio 3 brought Samuel Beckett with what still looks like one of the BBC's most inspired commissions. *All That Fall* (1957) inhabits a bucolic purgatory abandoned by nature: even the sounds of the wildlife are patently actors practising animal impersonations. The country railway station is not so much a location as a hallucination, and this is precisely why Beckett works on radio. His landscapes, being essentially interior, do not benefit from visual representation. They belong to the page and to the airwaves.

ON MONDAY

Paul Griffiths reviews the new staging of *Elektra* at Covent Garden, and *David Toop* watches *Spandau Ballet* in Docklands

RECORDS

Painting the unpredictable

CLASSICAL

Hilary Finch

Four Icelandic Orchestral Works
Iceland Symphony Orchestra/Sakari (ITM 8-22)
(available from Icelandic Music Information Centre, Freyjagata 1, 101 Reykjavik)

Small can be less than beautiful if nobody knows that you are, and isolation is both an artistic blessing and curse. Contemporary Icelandic composers have it made in that an unusually large percentage of new works are performed shortly after completion. Compared with their other Nordic colleagues, though, little of their music is programmed in Europe, and recordings are not yet adequately distributed.

It is worth experimenting with the latest release put out by the Iceland Music Information Centre. Here are four quite different voices from the older generation of living composers, the youngest of whom is Halldor Halgrímsson, one-time pupil of Maxwell Davies and principal cello of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra. His *Poem*, for solo violin and strings, are sharply defined responses to three paintings by Chagall depicting Jacob's dream, the sacrifice of Isaac and Jacob wrestling with the angel.

Erling Blöndal Bengtsson commissioned and here plays Jón Nordin's contrastingly subtle and pungently orchestrated single-movement Cello Concerto from the same year. Its soloists stimulate change and evolution in the cello itself, which moves reluctantly from confrontation to dialogue. A brave soundtrack of an *Adagio* from Magnús Jóhannsson provides six minutes of characteristically evocative sustained writing for strings and percussion to complete this programme.

CLASSICAL UPDATE
Boulez: *Improvisations sur Mallarmé* (II, Le merle sans maître, Figures-Doubles-Primes) Various musicians (Stradivarius STR 10028). The early performances of the Mallarmé settings (1959, under Boulez) and *Le*

rugs, crime and prison: the story of Frank Morgan's career sounds depressingly familiar. But for once, there is a chance that the saga will have a happy ending.

In the early Fifties Morgan was being hailed as the West Coast's answer to Charlie Parker. Still a teenager, he was turning up in session after session across Los Angeles. By 17 he was a heroin addict. Like the West Coast's other alto star, Art Pepper, he slid into drug abuse. And that, more or less, was the story of the next three decades, during which Morgan served time in a string of prisons. In San Quentin, he and Pepper became co-leaders of the Warden's Band, occasionally touring the prison network.

Seemingly unable to cope with life outside prison, Morgan was not ready to tackle New York until 1986, when he finally made his débüt at the Village Vanguard. A series of albums on the Contemporary label helped spread the word. If he still ranks somewhere below a true giant like Pepper, *Mood Indigo* amounts to an affirmation of his progress so far.

If he were just another bebop player, Morgan would scarcely merit all this belated attention. Like Pepper, he quickly advanced far beyond routine copies of Parker licks. The spaciousness and melodic flair of his playing – pure West Coast – carry him way beyond rigid adherence to the well-worn chord sequences. On this session the decision to avoid the standard bebop repertoire makes sense. "Lullaby", the intensely personal lament which opens the album, is a concise summary of what is to follow.

The well-advertised presence of Wynton Marsalis on two of the numbers should give the record a high profile. This is first and foremost a quartet date. Morgan is supported by bassist Buster Williams and drummer Al Foster, while George Cables shares the piano duties with Ronnie Matthews. Williams's solo piece, "A Moment Alone", forms a pensive interlude halfway through the record.

Morgan's idiosyncratic approach brings up some unusual material, including "This Love of Mine" and "Police Dots and Moonbeams". Their inclusion makes up for the desperately over-familiar "Round Midnight", not to mention that old stand-by "In a Sentimental Mood". On the latter, at least, Morgan's duet with Cables lifts the music out of the rut. Marsalis's contribution, meanwhile, may well arouse mixed feelings, though it seems churlish to complain after all he has done to champion Morgan's comeback. The Ellington title track is wonderfully relaxed, but

JAZZ

Clive Davis

Frank Morgan *Mood Indigo* (Antilles 91320)
Bobby Watson & Horace The Inventor (Blue Note CDP 79195)
Charles Lloyd Quartet *Fish Out Of Water* (ECM 1398)
Ben Webster *King Of The Tenors* (Verve 837451)

the same cannot be said of the trumpeter's playing on Coltrane's "Bessie's Blues". Starting out with a vivacious solo, he gradually manoeuvres himself into a punctilious dead-end. If Morgan is the wayward poet, Marsalis is the student declaiming from a grammar textbook.

Bobby Watson's Blue Note release is inevitably overshadowed by Morgan's album. All the same, at least half of this disc catches the ex-Blakey soloist at his very best. Hearing him with his own group, Horizon, makes us all the more aware of how much we miss when he appears with pickup bands during visits to Britain.

One of his originals, "Heckle And Jeckle", launches proceedings at a stunning pace in a frantic quintet performance suspended over Benny Green's insistent piano motif. Here, for once, is proof that the "neo-boppers" can swing with a vengeance: the flow of adrenaline would put a hip-hop band to shame. Awash with criss-crossing rhythms, the music is redolent of Watson's work with the much-praised 29th Street Saxophone Quartet. After the storm subsides, the second half of the session is a more workmanlike selection.

Charles Lloyd's label, ECM, is doing its best to paint his first studio recording in 10 years as the event of the century. One of the first jazz artists to pull in the big rock audiences, Lloyd retired from the fray at the end of the Sixties. His re-emergence in the early Eighties showed him moving a long way from his fusion extravagances. *Fish Out Of Water* is archetypal ECM chamber-jazz, tastefully presented by Bobo Stenson (piano), Paul Daniellson (bass) and Jon Christensen (drums). Lovers of Jan Garbarek are sure to fall for Lloyd's carefree, unassertive tone. Less committed listeners will probably feel that there is a fine line dividing the introspective from the inconsequential.

As for the re-issue of Ben Webster's *King Of The Tenors*, a critic's scribblings become just about irrelevant. All that needs to be said is that this is Webster in the early Fifties, blowing superlatively alongside Oscar Peterson and Harry Edison. An absolute gem. The title says it all.



Swinging with a vengeance: "neo-bopper" Bobby Watson's performance would put a hip-hop band to shame

JAZZ UPDATE

Carsten McRae Live (Verve Video CTV 10282) (60min)
Another Tokyo date, McRae is at her most compelling in the brief interlude when her musicians leave her alone at the electric and acoustic piano.

Keith Jarrett Standards II (Verve Video CTV 10242) (60min)

A faithful video document of the pianist's popular trio, recorded in Tokyo in 1986. Jarrett's groans and grimaces are no more of a distraction than they are on record.

Mike Nicholls reports on a new approach to fighting bootleggers

Booting recordings, for years an affliction on the record industry, are being eradicated on a tour by the Mission, which opens tomorrow in Liverpool. The band is inviting fans to bring tape recorders to their performances to make souvenirs of the event. Normally it is forbidden to make unauthorized recordings at rock shows and fans are warned that equipment may be confiscated.

Bootlegs are illegal recordings of live performances by popular acts which are not released by the artist's record company. Caedmon High Street in north London is full of stalls stacked high with cassettes of concerts by groups such as New Order and the Cure. Bootlegs are not to be confused with counterfeits, which are inexpensive forgeries of the real thing, produced and sold by unscrupulous dealers with access to pressing plants.

Do it yourself bootlegs

Bootlegging has been around since the days of the Beatles. In 1967, a man was jailed for a month and fined £50,000 after being found guilty of running a duplicating and distribution operation. The conviction was due largely to the efforts of the British Phonographic Industry, which considers it has a duty to protect the interests of record companies.

Since current material can only be released by the label to which the artist is signed at the time,

record companies do not take kindly to bootleggers. "A lot of people buy things which are of uncertain quality and can cost up to £20," says Wayne Hussey of the Mission, who suggested letting fans tape live concerts. "It's not going to affect record sales. If anything, it will stimulate them by giving as a higher profile. Every gig is worth taping because it's different. They're useful for us, too. They make us realize we're not as good as we think."

Tim Dabin, co-ordinator of the BPI's Anti-Piracy Unit, takes a different view: "In signing a contract with a record company, the band is not in a position to waive the company's exclusive rights to their recordings by allowing fans to make recordings of their own. I can't condone what the Mission is doing since we are supposed to be protecting their record company's copyrights, not giving them away."

ROCK UPDATE

3rd Bass *The Cactus Album* (Def Jam 466003 1)
Ingenious, irreverent, sassy, aggressive rap collages from the Long Beach "Gas Face" pose of M.C. Search, Prime Minister Pete Nice and DJ Richie Rich.

Pete Sain's *The Comforts of Madness* (4AD CADZ 0002)

Leeds trio in the forefront of the new wave of indie bands. A melancholy affair which betrays such impeccably hip influences as My Bloody Valentine, Spacemen 3 and the Jesus And Mary Chain.

A-Z GUIDE TO ROCK

Part 19 of David Sinclair's collectors' A-Z, a guide to the essential albums of the most enduring performers of rock. To qualify for inclusion in this series, an act

must have sustained a recording career of at least 10 years, and have mustered at least one decent album during that time. The entries are designed to be pasted

on to index cards and stored in a 6in by 4in filing box, available from most good stationery shops to form an instant guide to the hits and misses of rock history.

ARETHA FRANKLIN

If you want to know the truth, explained Aretha Franklin's Baptist minister father, "Aretha never left the church." In other words, the thrilling, whooping, unearthly singing voice, which earned its owner the undisputed sobriquet Lady Soul and the Queen of Soul, was always a serious investment. This is equally evident on *Amazing Grace* (1972), a superb double live album of the gospel standards on which she was brought up. But it was her righteous application of the gospel spirit to the more earthbound specifics of soul that made Franklin one of the most influential singers of the past 30 years. In the Sixties, she was propelled to the highest peaks of popular acclaim with a barrage of hits like "I Never Loved a Man", "Respect" and "Think", collected with many others on *20 Greatest Hits* (1987). Her 1988 album, *Lady Soul*, remains a singularly impressive monument to her greatness, with "Chain of Fools", "People Get Ready" and "A Natural Woman" exemplifying a range and passion that is little short of divine.

FREE/BAD COMPANY

Only a product of the late Sixties blues boom, Free evolved a uniquely arresting style, fusing just about the leanest, most austere rock group sound ever recorded, and playing it uniformly slow material with all the latent power and cool purpose of a stalking cat. Free (1968) is an unspotted example of their taut machismo-rock, and a precursor to the commercial success of 1970's *Fire and Water*, with its classic single "All Right Now". Free's *Live!* (1971) captures the group in a spellbinding form, grinding out souped-down versions of "I'm a Man", "Fire and Water" and "Mr Big". After Free split up, vocalist Paul Rodgers – who, along with Led Zeppelin's Robert Plant, created the role of the heavy-rock singer – and drummer Simon Kirke formed Bad Company, a stadium-sized version of Free, which sailed to the top of the US chart in 1974 with a workmanlike débüt, *Bad Company*. The group pestrode America like a colossus during the Seventies, but lacked the finesse that elevated Free to such a lasting state of grace.

NEXT WEEK: Peter Gabriel, Marvin Gaye

LINKWORDS ANSWER: The answer to last week's puzzle was INDELICATE. The linkwords were CIDER, CRATE, ALTER, TRIAL, ALERT, LARGE, EAGER, ANGER, REIGN, GRIP.

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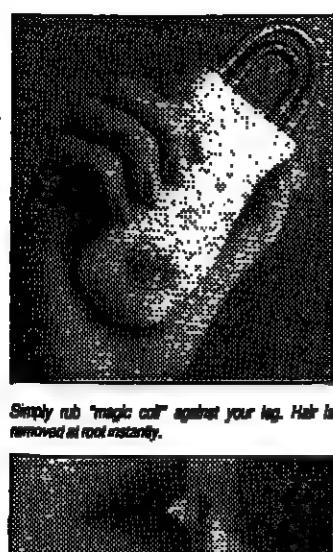
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THE TIMES **Which?** CONSUMER REPORT

Report by Nicole Swengley

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1990

SPIN SPEEDS

The faster a machine spins, the drier your washing will be. This cuts drying time and, if you have a tumble drier, your running costs. For example, a 4kg (8½lb) load of mixed cotton spun in a 1,000 rev/min machine takes about an hour to tumble dry at a cost of about 13p. The time and cost would double if the same load were spun in a 300 rev/min washing machine.

The difference between 300 and 1,100 rev/min is not so critical. Some machines which claim upwards of 1,000 rev/min maximum spin speed never spin that quickly when loaded, or do not spin at that speed for very long, and some machines with lower claimed spin speeds spin for longer.

Delicate and easy-care fabrics do not require a roaring spin which will wrench them up. With most fast-spin machines, either there is a lower spin-speed option button or a suitable speed will be selected automatically at the end of each programme. Some machines have a variable spin-speed control.

The best way to save energy is to use the lower temperature programmes, particularly when your washing is not that dirty. Choosing a half-load option helps, but waiting to wash a full load is better.

MACHINE TYPES

Front-loaders. If space is not a problem, you will probably want a full-size front-loading machine. These take 4kg to 5kg (8½-11lb) of mixed cotton in the maximum load and are designed with standard 60cm-width kitchen units in mind. Most are around 85cm high to fit neatly under worktops. If you want the front to fit flush with your unit doors, check the space paperwork takes up at the back.

Front loaders start at around £200. Typically, at the

lowest end of the price range, the spin speed is 800 rev/min with few features and little choice of programmes. For around £250 to £350, you will get more choice in features and more flexible programming options as well as a choice of machines with good spinning performance.

Machines costing between £350 and £450 can offer very good all-round performance.

But paying this much does not necessarily guarantee top performance, since some models merely offer a hi-tech appearance, flashing lights and programmes you will not often use for the extra cost. Most of the machines described as being "environmentally aware" cost more than £400.

Top-loaders. It might be worth considering one of these if you find it awkward to bend to use a front-loader. And if space is tight, you may prefer a drum-type top-loader, which is usually 15cm to 20cm narrower than full-size front-loaders. These take the same maximum load as front-loaders and work in a similar way.

You cannot use a top-loader under the work surface and, with heights of 85cm to 90cm, you may not be able to fit one under it. But, assuming the hoses are long enough, you could fit one in a corner.

Top-loaders start at around £370, but you can expect to pay more than £400 for a maximum spin speed of 1,000 rev/min or more.

Compacts. Front-loaders are about three-quarters the size of a full-size machine and take about half the usual maximum load. They wash

RELIABILITY

Which? monitored the breakdowns and servicing records of machines which were at least three years old but bought within the past five years.

Zanussi has been more reliable on average. Ariston, Candy, Hotpoint, Indesit, Philips and Servis were below average. AEG, Bendix, Electra and Hoover machines were not significantly different from the average. Most repairs arrived within three days.

The Hotpoint repairers responded within two days.

Most Indesit repairers finished the job on the spot. Most of the other manufacturers' repairers needed another day or two to fetch parts or equipment. Bendix took four days, on average, and the AEG repairers took seven days.

Cordula's repairers responded quickly and efficiently by fingertip remote control from the security and comfort of your car, then automatically lock closed at the touch of a button.

With the luxury of Cordula, you know you're home and dry.

BUYING GUIDE**Full-size front-loading machines**

BEST BUYS In the £200-£250 range: Indesit 823, £250. The £250-£350 range: Hotpoint Electronic 800 De Luxe £524, £300. The Candy D4-104X, £280, did not perform quite as well on the synthetic washing programme but is £20 cheaper. The Electrolux WH828 Electronic, £340, performs well but is more expensive.

GOOD VALUE In the £350-£450 range: If you want a computerized machine, the Hotpoint Microtronic 1000 De Luxe £554, £380, performs well. The Zanussi F11023, £410, performs very well all round. The Hotpoint Electronic 8544, £370, with a spin speed of 1000 rev/min is similar to the recommended 8554 but has more programmes so may be worth considering.

GOOD BUT PRICEY The AEG Lavamat 921 Sensortronic, £450, performs very well all round.

Full-size top-loading

The Philips Stimax 850 T12 AWG090, £370, is worth considering if you want a top-loader.

Compact

The Candy Aquamatic 3, £280, is worth considering if you want a compact front-loader.

Washer-driers

The Hoover ABS48/50, £380, is worth considering if you want an air-ventilated washer-drier.

The best line in washing

There are more than 200 different washing machines in the shops to choose from, costing anywhere between £200 and £1,250. The best way to narrow selection is to decide which programmes and features will be most useful to you, as well as considering the size and style of machine, spinning performance, running costs, convenience and, these days, the environmental factors. *Which?* magazine has tested most of the machines available and its recommendations are given below in the "Buying Guide".

CHOOSING A WASHING MACHINE

• Standard wash programmes. Most machine-washable clothes have care labels which indicate the wash temperature and the wash action recommended. All the machines tested claim to have programmes which will wash at the correct temperatures for most things. Some machines display the care symbols on the front panel.

• Flexibility. Some machines have their main programmes and temperatures pre-set, so you need only to set one control (although there may be a separate economy button). With others, you set the programme and temperature separately. These may be slightly more complicated but offer greater flexibility.

Similarly, some machines have a pre-wash facility, which is built in to certain programmes, while others have pre-wash as a separate option. This provides more flexibility but could be inconvenient if it means having to set the main programme. Some machines tested have both types.

• Built-in delay timers. Timers allow you to use the machine at night without having to add a time-switch – useful if you have an Economy 7 electricity meter. If it's a computerized machine does not have a built-in timer it is unlikely that it can be used with an independent time-switch. This is because the machine cannot be programmed until the electricity supply is connected – after the time-switch has operated.

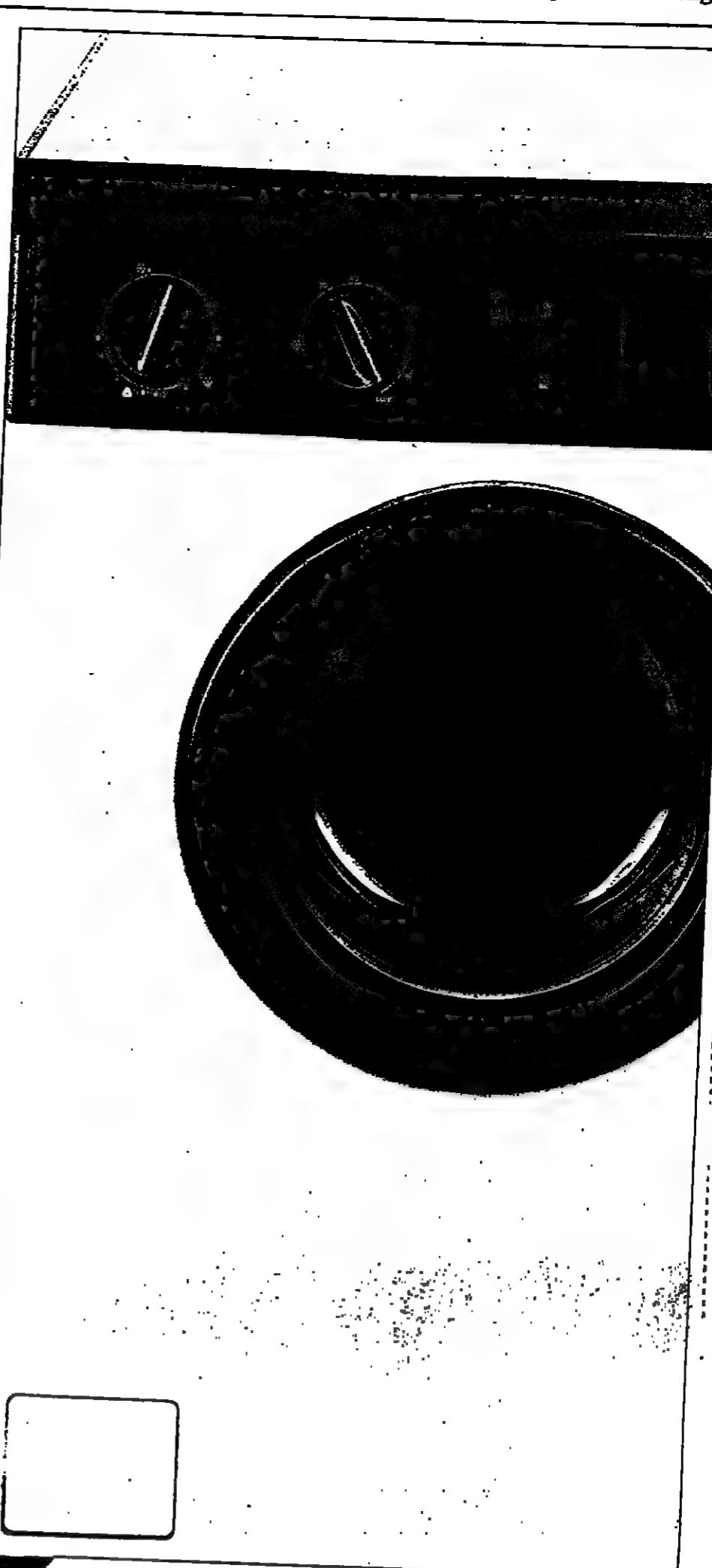
• Economy programmes. These are available on most

machines. The most common is half-load (or reduced load), which reduces the amount of water and detergent needed when you want to wash only a few things. But most "half-loads" do not really halve the amounts of water, detergent or electricity used, compared with the machine's full load, so doing two half-loads is not as economical as waiting until you can tackle a full load.

Reduced temperature washes are useful for slightly soiled clothes, or easy-care fabrics, and with biological detergents. Generally, they still use about the same amount of water as the main programme; savings are made because they use less electricity. A quick-wash programme may be useful for freshening up a lightly soiled load in about half an hour.

• Wool programme. All but two machines tested by *Which?* have a wool programme, approved by the International Wool Secretariat, for washing woollens labelled "Machine washable". The Baxi Super Compact and the Fagor F9800 washer-drier are unsuitable for washing wool.

• Other wash programmes. "Multifabric" programmes allow you to mix different fabric types in the wash. It sounds useful but it is a long, low-temperature soak, generally taking four to five hours. "Drain" means you can drain the water out without spinning if you want to drip-dry washing. "Cold wash" means that the machine takes in only cold water. "No heater" means washing at the temperature of incoming water.



Best buy up to £250: Indesit 823, £250

Best buy up to £350: Hotpoint Electronic 800 De Luxe £524, £300

SPIN SPEEDS

is pump and motor and to get the wash water hotter than that in your hot tap.

• Water. All washing machines use a lot of water, but there are big differences between models. The best machines, which use less than 70 litres (15.5 gallons) of water per wash, would, on current average water charges, cost no more than around £3.50 per quarter (assuming five washes a week). Machines which use more than 100 litres per wash will cost upward of £6.

THINKING GREEN

Amid the furor over machines designated "green", *Which?* says that some manufacturers have for many years been making washing machines with energy-saving and water-saving features.

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THE WEEK AHEAD



Good luck: Joan Carol Williams

THEATRE
TONY PATRICK

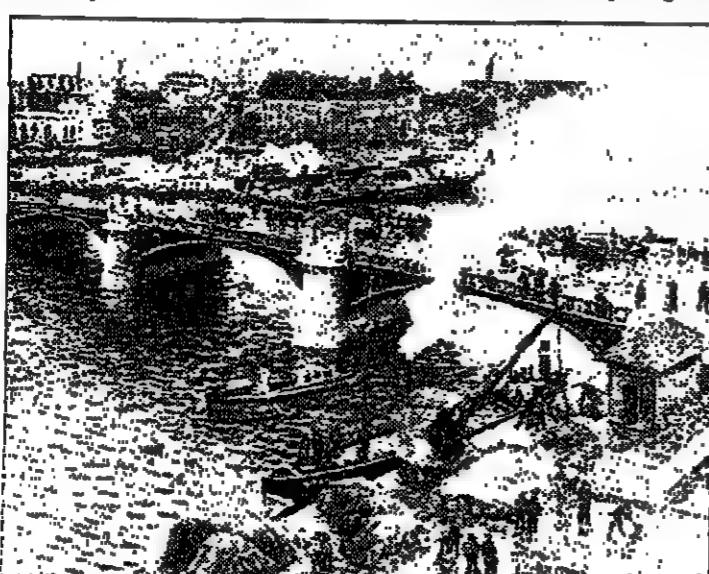
BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS: World premiere of Nigel Baldwin's play about a reunion of former student journalists. Numbered, Southampton (0703 671771). Opens Thurs.

JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL: Tom Cunliffe takes over from Peter O'Toole as the bumbling columnist, Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1 (01-437 2653). From Mon.

MY NAME, SHALL I TELL YOU MY NAME? Christine Field's tale of love between a young girl and her grandmother. Young Vic Studio, 86 The Cut, London SE1 (01-928 6363). Previews Tues, Wed. Opens Thurs.

SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE: UK premiere of Stephen Sondheim/James Lapine musical. Lyttelton, National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 2252). Previews from today. Opens Mar 15.

When a new theatre is to be opened the first hurdle is to make sure that the builders are out before the audience arrives. The West Yorkshire Playhouse in Leeds can be said to have cleared this one, because the Quarry Theatre (ceremonially opening next Thursday) is ready and waiting, even though work still continues on the smaller Courtyard Theatre, which is not due to be opened until May. The second hurdle is to make sure that there is drink in the bar. But the third and crucial hurdle is to come up with a production that so delights its first audiences that word spreads quickly and establishes the new theatre as a good thing. Jude Kelly, the artistic director, has made an inspired choice for her opening production in reviving *Wild Oats* by Sheridan's contemporary, John O'Keefe. This sprightly Regency comedy is packed with mistaken identities, heroes stolen in childhood, evicting landlords and a troupe of travelling players. Reece Dinsdale and Sam Kelly play Rover and his servant John Dory in roles reminiscent of the master and servant parts they play in the television series, *Haggard*. Among the female cast members are Helen Schlesinger and Joan Carol Williams. Good luck to them all. *Wild Oats*, West Yorkshire Playhouse, Quarry Hill Mount, Leeds. (0532 442111). Preview Wednesday. Opens Thursday. *Jeremy Kingston*



Unsentimental: Pissarro's "Boisdeau, Rennes, damp weather", 1896

GALLERIES
DAVID LEE

LUCY JONES: Vivid, expressionist paintings and drawings of city scenes, plus a remarkable and forthright series of self-portraits. Drumcrudden Art Centre, Wigan (0942 321840). From Mon.

FAKE? THE ART OF DECEPTION: A show about fake paintings and sculptures from all periods

Claude Pissarro (1831-1903) is a more complex artistic personality than a superficial view of his impressionist landscapes, cityscapes and figure studies would suggest. Politically an anarchist and a lucid theorist about the new demands placed on painting in the photographic age, his painting is much more than a pretty demonstration of an innovative technique. A new exhibition featuring more than 50 paintings, and including many drawings, attempts to link the work more closely than before to his personality and beliefs. With few breaks, Pissarro lived in the outer suburbs of Paris. Here, it was possible to exist as cheaply, and with as many hardships, as a peasant. The advantages, however, were numerous. Pissarro could observe, experience and paint rural life without sentimentality. It also introduced him to the progressive industrialization of France. Pissarro included in his pictures the chimney stacks, telegraph wires and steam trains that some of his contemporaries left out as being incompatible with their bucolic visions. Camille Pissarro: Impressionism, Landscape and Rural Labour opens on Thursday at Birmingham City Museum and Art Gallery (021 352834). Then May 4-June 17, The Burrell Collection, Glasgow.

including wrong Rembrandts and Hogheys and "copies" by Tom Keating. British Museum, London WC1 (01-638 1555). From Fri.

ALISON WATT: Recent paintings by another of the seemingly inexhaustible supply of gifted young graduates of Glasgow Art School, who recently caused a stir with her controversial portrait of the Queen Mother. Scottish Gallery, London W1 (01-287 2121). From Wed.

RAMBERT DANCE COMPANY: Three week London season opens with special children's gala (Tues); then Thurs-Sat Mar 10 the London premiere of Merce Cunningham's *Doubles* with Asley Page's *Soldat*. Sadler's Wells (01-278 8915).

ROYAL BALLET: Kenneth MacMillan's new *Princes of the Parnassus* twice today at Birmingham Hippodrome (021 822 7488); then Thurs-Sat Mar 10 at the Palace, Manchester (061-236 9922).

LONDON CONTEMPORARY DANCE THEATRE: Premieres by Dan Wagoner (Mon, Tues) and Kenneth Tharp (Tues matinee) at Demelza, Northampton (0604 2481).

ENGLISH NATIONAL BALLET: Tour of small theatres with programme by Paul Taylor, August Bournville, Jose Limon and others continues to Northcott Theatre, Exeter (0392-54853) today, Wyvern Theatre, Swindon (0793 524481), Mon, Tues, and Festival Theatre, Malvern (0684-892277), Fri and Sat Mar 10.

Winning heroine: Kathleen Turner teams up with Michael Douglas again for US hit *The War of the Roses*

Hollywood snapped up the rights to Warren Alder's novel *The War of the Roses* in the year of publication, 1980, though the property then became stalled. No one seemed interested in a film that begins as a romantic comedy about a perfect couple and ends in the realms of the black farce with the squabbling partners, facing divorce, venting their fury by destroying each other's possessions. By 1985, the project had landed with the producer James Brooks, riding high after *Terminator*; production designer Polly Platt was initially pencilled in as director. Then the winning team arrived. Michael Douglas and Kathleen Turner, a popular couple after

SHADOW MAKERS (12): Roland Joffé's first film since *The Mission* – a sober, compelling account of scientist J. Robert Oppenheimer (Dwight Schultz) and his colleagues, perfecting the first atomic bomb. Paul Newman

DANCE towers on the sidelines as the Pentagon big-shot cracking the whip. Empire (01-437 1234). From Fri.

THE FABULOUS BAKER BOYS (15): A blonde sexy singer causes fireworks when she joins up with

vindictiveness and physical thrills. The project obviously required a director with a hugely warped sense of humour. Who better, then, than Danny DeVito, pugnacious actor and perpetrator of *Throw Momma From the Train?* (He also appears as Douglas's divorce lawyer.) This exhausting comic version of marital hell has been a huge box-office hit in America: so much for President Bush's pre-election pledge to promote "family values". Odeon Leicester Square (01-930 6111), from Friday, certificate 15.

ROCK two cocktail pianists. Great fun, with subtle playing from Michele Pfeiffer, Jeff Beau Bridges, and accomplished work from writer-director Steve Kloves. Odeon Haymarket (01-839 7697). From Fri.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE Götz Friedrich's new production of Strauss' *Elektra* opens tonight at 8pm (also Wed) with Sir Georg Solti conducting a cast led by Eva Marton singing the title role for the first time at Covent Garden.

EVERYTHING BUT THE GIRL: Shrinking violet Ben Watt and Tracey Thorn whose music has recently acquired a tuxedoed, American supper club sound. Royal Centre, Nottingham (0602 84505) tomorrow; Colston Hall, Bristol (0272 262957) Mon; then Guildford and Harrogate.

WILL DOWING: Full-tormented soul man best known for his manicured rendering of "A Love Supreme". St David's Hall, Cardiff (0222 371236) tonight; Malt, Stockton (0642 611082) tomorrow; then Cambridge, Manchester and Hammersmith Odeon (Thurs).

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: Revival of *Der Rosenkavalier* by Wolfgang Weber opens in Cardiff (also Tues). New Theatre, Cardiff (0222 394844).

OPERA NORTHERN IRELAND: Open their first ever spring session with a new production of *Die Fledermaus*. Grand Opera House, Belfast (0232 240411).

OPERA **CLIVE DAVIS** **HARRY EDGRODE** **JAZZ**

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SATURDAY MARCH 3 1990

Marshall the key to West Indian reaction

From Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent
Kingston, Jamaica

After the revolution comes the reckoning. The established order has been spectacularly overthrown in one of cricket's more surprising weeks, but even the conquering England side, justly basking in unimagined glory, must know that power does not change hands without dispute.

If they are entitled to fear swift retaliation, England have already succeeded where many previous touring sides here have failed, obliging West Indies to analyse what they had come to take for granted. When one has exhausted all the accolades for England's cricket during the first Test, giving due credit to Gooch's captaincy, Lamb's batting and the rare discipline of the five bowlers, it has to be admitted that something went very wrong with West Indies.

Whether it was arrogance, complacency or simply a com-

Kingston. It is all too easy, in this wondrous week of Test cricket, to dismiss the one-day game as a trivial sideshow (Alan Lee writes). England, of course, can afford no such complacency as they enter today's third limited-overs international here with the series still level at 0-0 thanks to two washed out games in Trinidad.

To make the point tellingly, on the morning after the night before, Micky Stewart, the team manager, ordered his

annual lapses, this was a great team playing unaccountably poorly. It goes without saying that they are capable of very much better but specific areas of their game must be causing acute anxiety.

In all their years of dominating world cricket, West Indies' game plan has assumed certain dependable factors. They have had the best opening pair in Greenidge and Haynes, they have had sane, quality

triumphant players back into the nets with the exhortation to forget yesterday's news and concentrate only on tomorrow.

The less experienced your players become the longer it takes them to learn that what is done is done," Stewart said. "It takes them some while to come down to earth.

"We told them when the Test ended to make the most of the moment and enjoy it. It was a great experience for us."

battling at No. 5 and 7 if the stroke-making middle-order should fail; and they have had Malcolm Marshall, not just leading the attack but directing it.

To differing degrees, all three vital components failed to function at Sabina Park, none more strikingly than Marshall. It was not simply that this master of his art took only one tail-end wicket. Much more conspicuous was that he

had no apparent enthusiasm either for bowling or for involving himself with the other bowlers. When he did bowl, he hardly engaged top gear at any stage.

It did not pass unnoticed. Lamb expressed surprise that Marshall "sort of threw in the towel" on the second afternoon, while Vivian Richards was as unimpressed by his senior bowler's demeanour that he did not employ him at

all, either on the third morning, with two England wickets remaining, or on the final day.

Marshall and Richards have not always seen eye to eye. But while there is no noticeable friction between them, the sight of the great bowler wandering in the deep field, removed from the action, certainly does nothing for the cause of a team enduring a rare crisis.

He will be 32 next month

and openly admits he has little time left at this level but if West Indies are to respond to this unexpected challenge they must have a properly fit and motivated Marshall to help them.

To that end, there is no question of England using today's game as a chance to reacquaint Bailey and Medlycott with match conditions. Indeed, both men must be wondering if, rather than when, they will resume

unless the openers last longer than they did here, of Richards strolling out to perform a rescue act, unable to express himself in the way he needs to do.

West Indies have named an unchanged 13 for next week's second Test in Georgetown, Guyana, but two changes to the final team can be anticipated.

David Gower: If I were Vivian Richards, page 37
More cricket 53

Logie has been a thorn in England's side on many occasions, stabilizing his team whenever the cavalier instincts of the top order led them into difficulties. His broken finger will keep him out until the third Test at least and in his absence Richards has plainly nominated himself as the shepherd of a suddenly vulnerable flock.

Richards did himself no justice here, playing with scant regard for the circumstances. Best looks short of class. If high on determination, Hooper suffers from quite the reverse. There is every danger,

Keith Arthurton could replace Hooper, as much for his left-handedness as anything, and on a pitch which traditionally lacks pace, Patterson will probably make way for the first Test appearance of Ezra Moseley.

Personnel, however, may matter less than professionalism, a quality the world champions — for that is what they remain — the Kingston miracle notwithstanding — must urgently restore to their game.



LAST STOP BEFORE ANTARCTICA

Despite its remoteness, Patagonia welcomes tourists. Michael Watkins took a cruise south from Buenos Aires to keep company with many thousands of penguins and to take tea with members of the Welsh community which has survived so far from home since 1865. Page 53

CRICKET LOVER'S GUIDE

England's win in the first Test might encourage more people to take a Caribbean holiday to coincide with the other matches. James Henderson and Brian Viner have visited Guyana and the three islands which host the important games. Page 53

THE ART OF TRAVEL


They offer more traditional skills of craft than Sean Lineen and Scott Hastings, centres in the modern mould whose greatest strength is, well, their strength.
Perhaps it is an omen that the match is sponsored by British Coal: apart from the fact that their product is as black as the jerseys of Neath, they also symbolise a traditional feature of Welsh life. The mines have been closing for some years now but maybe Neath will provide the opening of a new door for Welsh rugby.
More rugby, page 50

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Phil Davies has been moved to lock, though I suspect he may have more rugby knowledge to apply at No. 8 than Mark Jones and his powerful, near-18st frame could be more easily launched into the opposition midfield. It is time, too, for the talented Welsh backs to take a hand, if someone will only give them some decent possession.

Both David Evans and Mark Ring have the ability to weave elusive patterns in attack, and they will want to bring Alan Bateman, the new centre, into the scheme of things as soon as practicable.

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More rugby, page 50

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Cooke concentrates on English game

By Peter Bills

Jeff Cooke, the England team manager, whose players sit the five nations' championship table this morning, is far from convinced that his team's 34-6 humiliation of Wales will extend depression into the valleys.

"I think Scotland will find it very difficult indeed to win in Cardiff," he said. "Wales are

likely to react to that heavy defeat with a great deal of pride and commitment. The presence of a new coach can only enhance those virtues.

"All Wales, and the new man in charge, will be desperately keen to make a big impact. I expect the whole Welsh nation will get behind them."

The power of positive thought, which has been the

foundation of England's renaissance this season, is underlined by Cooke's attitude to Scotland, now the only team between his side and a grand slam.

"We really do not mind whether Scotland win in Cardiff or not. In a sense, it would create marvellous finale to the championship, with both teams in with an opportunity

of the grand slam.

"But our approach will be the same as in the other games. We have concentrated all through on getting our own game right, working on perfecting the pattern we wish to play. It is no disrespect to the opposition to say that we have worked more on our game than paid undue attention to other teams' plans."

Injuries leave Rangers in no state for a speedy recovery

By Roddy Forsyth

Whatever the state of Rangers' oracle after Sunday's defeat at Parkhead in the British Cup, they will not be the best of physical health day when they attempt to gain their momentum in the premier division with a visit to Dens Park to meet Dundee, bottom club in the table. Richard Gough has not yet woken from his foot operation of three weeks ago, while Jim Walters, carried off in the first half against Celtic, is out of contention. Ally Cost has aggravated a galling groin injury to the point where he is extremely painful, although he is tied in Rangers' squad of 16 men for the journey to Tynecastle.

Meanwhile, Tynecastle is venue, for the second week meeting of a meeting between art of Midlothian and themselves. This time their illness is in the longer and home team are greatly tyed by their 4-0 Scottish

Cup victory last Saturday. If their swelling confidence required any further inflation, it was provided by the Motherwell manager, Tommy McLean, who yesterday identified the Heart's forward line of John Robertson, John Colquhoun and Scott Crabbie as the most effective in Scotland.

McLean said: "We have lost thirteen goals against us this season and all but one of them was scored by these three players. Last week their scoring rate was phenomenal; they had six shots on target and four ended in the net, which is a strike rate of real quality.

"We made things hard for

ourselves with basic errors in the cup match and we let our supporters down but we have applied ourselves in training this week and now our players have to show that they have the character to overcome setbacks. It is up to them to prove that they are capable of winning a place in Europe next season."

Elsewhere, the card is made up by Hibernian and St Mirren, who meet at Easter Road, and Aberdeen's visit to East End Park to meet

Linford Christie, Britain's fastest ever sprinter, was keeping officials guessing yesterday over whether or not he would appear in the two-day European place open to Scottish teams. For all their sense of well-being following last week's victory over Rangers, Celtic have a tough home fixture against Dundee United whose record at Parkhead in recent years has been impressive. Inevitably, the thirteen Celtic players who emerged victorious from the Old Firm derby are on duty once again with Steve Fulton added to the pool.

Linford's comments about the softness of the track might have referred to the fact that he was still feeling his legs when he came back from Auckland. *More athletics, page 52*

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More athletics, page 52

Waldron positive of leading Welsh revival

There is a strange compulsion attached to a coach. It is a concoction of vanity - believing that what he has to impart is eminently worthy of imparting, and that the knowledge is his alone - and the altruism of wanting to share the secret so that others might benefit, too.

If, however, that was all, few coaches would last very long. The national register of coaches would be the slimmest of volumes, success being the ingredient which feeds both qualities. But a coach has to deal with failure which, because he does not play, he takes more deeply and personally than any of the players. What makes it work, then, is the very necessary dash of masochism.

Welsh coaches need such a skillful of the staff nowadays that you wonder why anyone in his right mind should be tempted to the job in the first place. But to take it on in the second place,



Gerald Davies

picking up the pieces left by another, seems to require the instincts of the lemming.

While John Ryan, the former national coach, left disillusioned through one door, Ron Waldron, his successor, popped out just as neatly, smiling, from another. Didn't he feel awkward taking over in this way?

"No," says Waldron, in his non-nonsense way. "Think think."

The timing is in my favour. There is no time to worry about the plans for the season's campaign. I can't worry about the players' levels of fitness. I can't have any doubts about the current set-up.

"But what was important was selection, and my approach depended on that. To be chairman,

and to have the casting vote, was necessary. A coach needs to be an honest person and to think clinically, so that he is able to stand up to justify his position and his selection."

Waldron is a man of strong views and character. When he stood on the stairway of the Angel Hotel to announce his first team, which plays Scotland at Cardiff today, he did so as the "man most likely to", finally assuming the role of chairman of a big conglomerate forced to announce disappointing interim results.

He did so, boldly, looking over his half-glasses and, at crucial moments, taking them off as if to challenge anyone present who thought that the crisis was due to anything other than poor trading conditions outside.

He did not err by laying the blame anywhere else. The fixed look on any of the questioners suggested, but not stated, that the

next half-year with him finally in control had better show an upturn in performance. The shareholders, you might say, were left with an air of optimism. They believed in the man in charge.

While Waldron has been in the vanguard of change at Neath since 1982, it came as a surprise that he had coached the club back in the late 1960s. He resigned on some principle or other, which he has now forgotten, but continued to coach Neath Athletic Youth and then the Welsh Youth. Recent success for him has overshadowed everything, even, I would guess, the four caps he won in Wales's triple crown year of 1965.

"There was a conscious decision in 1982 that Neath had to change," Waldron said. "Brian Thomas, David Shaw, Glen Bell and myself came together and decided that Neath, who had long been in the doldrums, needed to once more play a prominent role in

Welsh rugby.

"The general work of the committee is vital, of course, but it was the selection of the right kind of players that came first. Players had to relate to the way we wanted Neath to play. It was partly traditional. From the days of Rees Stephens and Brian Sparks, we had had big, mobile, uncompromising players. Not just in the forwards but in the backs, too. They all had to be very skilful.

"It hasn't all been plain sailing. We have had our rows on the way things should be done, but such arguments have been vital to clear the air as well as direct our thoughts more clearly. Brian Thomas, for instance, would pose an outrageous point of view simply to get a response. People on any committee must have a point of view and, whatever it is, it has to be expressed. Otherwise, it's dead wood. You can't afford that."

Last year, aged 55, he retired

early from the steelworks. This put him in a unique position. As men of independent means, or professional men who could control their comings and goings, have played a vital part in sport's administration in the past, Waldron, now, in a different way, was free of work constraints.

The time

was his own to devote

as he wished.

It is an enormous

advantage in an amateur sport.

However, he is again working for

James Scott,

the electrical

engineering company which is part of the Amec group.

"But they are

kind, and we have a very flexible

arrangement," he says.

Waldron

needs

flexibility

because he interprets his role more

widely than those coaches before him.

"We need in Wales to

establish a better direction for all

those involved in rugby," he said.

"I have already met Alan Phillips

[of Cardiff], Gareth Jenkins [Llanelli] and Alan Donovan [Swan-

sea] to discuss basic disciplines and philosophy. In time, I'll meet the other clubs, too. And I intend to meet schools and youth groups. "It is important that Wales has a common theme running right through the game at every level. There is what you might call a national programme in New Zealand. The same should apply to Wales, with its distinctive style."

Waldron will not be relinquishing his role in Neath just yet. Clearly, from what he says, there will be no respite for other Welsh clubs. "Neath is still a young team. The best is not here yet," he says.

"There is so much more to do. And we are becoming more community-minded. The whole town feels so much better for having a good rugby team. We are developing a family atmosphere. We now have a commercial committee in place, and we want to develop rugby from the age of 11 upwards."

RUGBY UNION: PRIDE AND REVENGE WILL SPUR FRANCE AT PARC DES PRINCES

Ireland could suffer from French chic and Blanco's magic

By Bryan Stiles

The Parc des Princes could well be the setting this afternoon for that prince of players, Sergio Blanco, to take his leave of the game that he has graced so flamboyantly for more than 10 years.

For the past two seasons he has been strutting the stage with far less assurance. The dramatic gestures have not been having the old mesmeric effect on the opposition. Even sitting in the gods at the back of the stands his devotees realise he has been forgetting his lines more often and appears to be searching for the prompt board to discover what his next move should be.

Even at the peak of his powers he tended to drift away from centre stage for periods only to pop up from the trap door and perform a breathtaking piece of magic that would turn a tragedy into a triumph.

Perhaps with artistry and flair out of fashion in the Fouroux set-up it would be an appropriate time to bow out. But Blanco, like most of the French team, has a score he would like to settle before he departs. He wants to be on the winning side against New Zealand in the World Cup which comes to Europe next year.

More than that, he wants to be in the cup-winning team. It is an ambition that could well give a sharper edge to his skills in this afternoon's bottom-of-the-table game against Ireland, and help him keep his place in the French team for the build-up to the cup competition.

He has picked his way irritated through the debris of a traumatic season for the French, who, much to his dismay, have abandoned the glorious open play that was their trademark.

Even last season, when France concentrated on forward power, who could forget the finger-tipped dexterity and the flowing grace which brought Blanco a try against Wales in Paris. The supreme athlete exhibiting the skills of the conjuror.

Blanco and his senior col-

TODAY'S TEAMS IN PARIS

France

S Blanco	15	Full back	K Murphy (Constitution)	15
P Ronel	14	Right wing	K J Hooks (And)	14
P Seille	13	Right centre	M J Kiernan (Dolphin)	13
F Mennet	12	Left centre	P P A Danaher (Garroway)	12
P Laglaque	11	Left wing	K D Crossan (Rouen)	11
D Camberabero	10	Stand off	B A Smith (Oxford University)	10
H Sanz	9	Scrum half	L F P Ahern (Londoners)	9
M Pujol	1	Prop	J J Fitzgerald (Young Munster)	1
L Armay	2	Hooker	T J Kinghorn (Dolphin)	2
P Edwards	3	Prop	D C Fitzgerald (Londoners)	3
J M Livermet	6	Flanker	P T J O'Hearn (Sunday's Way)	6
T Devierge	4	Lock	D G Lanhant (Constitution)	4
J Condron	5	Lock	N P Francis (Blackrock College)	5
O Roumet	7	Flanker	W D McBride (Masons)	7
L Rodriguez	8	No 8	N P Mummery (Connah's Quay)	8

Referee: K W McCartney (Scotland)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 D Besset (Dax), 17 F Hoyer (Montauban), 18 E Melville (Toulouse), 19 P Andreu (Nimes), 20 M Andreu (Nimes), 21 F Vito (Bordeaux)

Captain

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ATHLETICS: AN ABUNDANCE OF TALENT AT DISPOSAL OF BRITAIN'S COACHING CHIEF FOR WEEKEND EUROPEAN INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Dick takes aim for record 10 medals in spite of absentees

By David Powell, Athletics Correspondent

Britain may be without the likes of Peter Elliott, Marcus Adam, Yvonne Murray and Liz McColgan, and three of their four winners from last year, but they enter the European indoor championships at the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, this weekend, optimistic of a record level of success.

"We have got 10 shots at medals," Frank Dick, the national director of coaching, said yesterday. Last year nine medals were won, Britain's best, so far, at the championships.

Dick, who guided Britain to victory in the outdoor European Cup and to third in the World Cup in 1989, emphasized that these were "shots" rather than firm candidates.

He would not say in which events he thought the cartridges were loaded but we can guess that the "four very good chances of gold" come from the men's 800 metres, 1,500 metres, 3,000 metres, 60 metres hurdles and high jump and the women's 400 metres.

At the time of talking, Dick was uncertain whether Linford Christie had changed his mind and decided to contest the 60 metres. "We are going to have 10 very competitive athletes here, even before you look at Linford," Dick said.

How British tennis must envy this sport. So soon after the Commonwealth Games, with most medal-winners from Auckland easing off before the surge into summer, and others dipping into cross country, such talk of medals at these championships underlines the depth. Tennis take note: "One of the arguments I have as to why British kids are so successful is that they don't get things all their own way," Dick said.

The men's 800 metres, in which Tom McLean, Brian Whittle and David Sharpe all have medal chances, represents Britain's most formidable challenge; the women's 400 metres, in which either Sally Gunnell or Linda

Keough could win gold, comes next: Tony Morrell, fifth in the Commonwealth Games, has the chance to step out of Elliott's shadow in the 1,500 metres; Tony Jarrett, in the 60 metres hurdles, is trying to dodge Jackson's.

Dalton Grant's 2.34 metres in Bremen suggests that he is among the half dozen men who can challenge for the high jump; Steve Crabb has a chance in the 3,000 metres; a gas service engineer, he will be anxious to show he is back to high speed after running 3:35s for 1,500 in 1987 and 1988 but only 3:36 in 1989.

Jackson, like Steve Heard (800 metres), and Ade Mafe (200 metres), has put summer preparation before defending his title won in The Hague last year. Britain's record nine medals then comprised four gold, four silver and a bronze. Gunnell is the only British defending champion.

Though unlikely to win, Stewart Faulkner, in the long jump, and Diane Edwards, in the 1,500 metres, could take medals. Edwards, the Commonwealth 800 metres champion, requested the longer distance. Her coach, Norman Poole, said: "Diane is an endurance based athlete. She has never been beaten at 1,500 metres and, although she has not had that many class races, in the past two years she has beaten Ben Nicholson and Christina

Boxer." Jackson, 2.13, is Holman.

Long jump

8.24m: R Emryian (USSR); 8.21: D Head (GBR); 8.08: S Faraj (EGY); 8.06: E Povet (RUS); 8.06: J Arantes (Spa); 8.05: N Walker (GBR); 8.03: R Schuler (WGR); E Tsvetkov (Spa); 8.02: D Schutte (WGR); Other British: 8.71: J Lindström (outdoor mark).

800 metres

1min 48.25sec: J-P Herold (GBR); 1:46.95: T McLean (GBR); 1:47.17: J Arancio (Spa); 1:47.54: L-J González (Spa); 1:47.84: E Parpiani (ITA); 1:48.01: A Gómez (Spa); 1:48.02: J-A Soler (Spa); 1:48.17: M Epinus (EGY); 1:48.18: L Lahera (Spa); Other British: 1:50.56: D Sharpe; 1:46.95: B Whittle (outdoor mark).

1,500 metres

8min 55.70sec: T Morrell (GBR); 8:02.07: F Clegg (GBR); 8:04.49: M Condron (GBR); 8:04.74: T Morris (GBR); 8:05.06: S Crabb (GBR); 8:05.17: J P Grant (GBR); 8:05.26: K Dunn (GBR); 8:05.48: A Gómez (Spa); 8:05.51: N Balon (Munk); 8:05.52: K Epinus (EGY); 8:05.53: I Gómez (Spa); Other British: 8:06.01: P Peggott; 8:06.04: S Dunn; 8:06.05: D Douglas.

3,000 metres

7min 51.9sec: B Dee (GBR); 7:52.06: A Naismith (Neth); 7:53.20: B Vago (Hung); 7:53.30: U Pál (Hung); 7:53.46: S Crabb (GBR); 7:53.51: J P Grant (GBR); 7:53.54: K Dunn (GBR); 7:53.57: A Gómez (Spa); 7:53.71: I Gómez (Spa); Other British: 7:54.06: C Peggott; 7:54.07: S Dunn; 7:54.08: D Douglas.

60 metres hurdles

7.62sec: F Schwertfeger (WGR); 7.54: J Kazanov (USSR); 7.57: P Toubet (Fra); 7.60: B Shishkin (USSR); 7.60: D Koszalek (Pol); 7.64: E Van Hulst (Neth); 9:05.22: S McGurk (GBR); Other British: 8:48.72: K Hutchinson (GBR); 7.70: J Jude (GBR); 7.71: D Nelson (GBR).

Heads together on McLean's flops

Tom McLean goes for a European indoor 800 metres gold in Glasgow this weekend and then sits down with Frank Dick to thrash out the reason for his three flops at big championships.

The Scot, aged 26, failed at the 1987 world championships in Rome, the 1988 Seoul Olympics and this year's Commonwealth Games in Auckland. His form contrasted mysteriously with impressive victories in the World Cup and European Cup

last summer. Now, Dick will get together with McLean and his coach, Tommy Boyle, under the British Board's "management achievement programme."

Dick, the board's director of coaching, said: "I hope to fix up a date with them this weekend. We must solve the problem and make sure it doesn't happen again. There has to be an explanation. Tommy and I have been friends for many years and

it's back to square one for this meeting. There's a lot of pressure on Tom and he's tried to keep a low profile this week. But he's in good nick."

Mum will like what Isaacs is saying

I'm sure we can work something out."

Boyle said: "It's not a fear of failure, but an uncontrollable hunger to win. Seb Coe showed the same symptoms at 800 metres. He set world records at the distance in 1979 and 1981, but didn't win a major 800 title until 1985."

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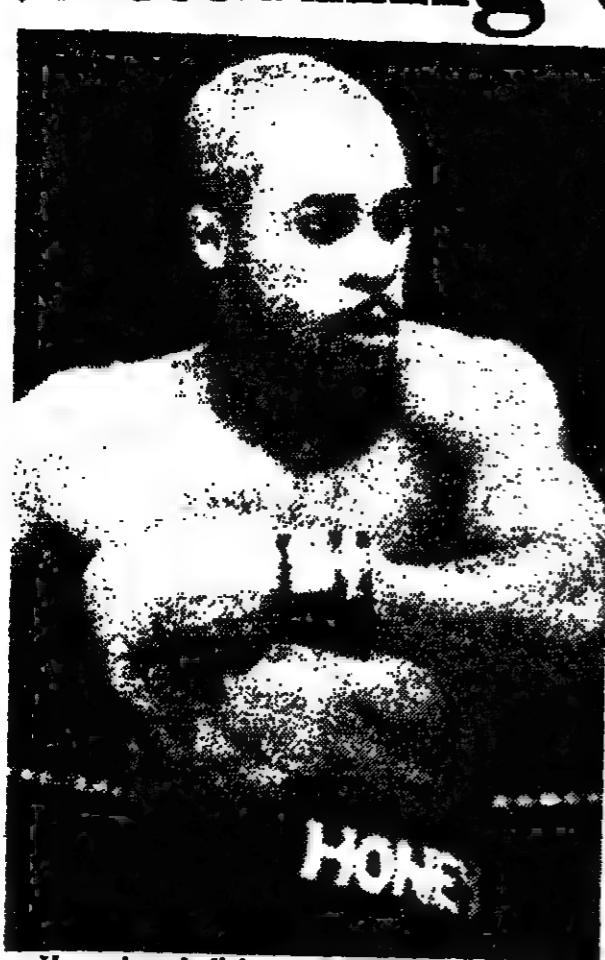
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Higgins showing all his old swagger



Honeyghan: declining powers and arthritic hands

CRICKET: ZIMBABWE HOPE TO FURTHER THEIR CLAIMS FOR TEST STATUS AT THE EXPENSE OF ENGLAND TOURING TEAM

England A players may adapt better to a five-day game

From Richard Streeton, Harare

For most of the Zimbabwe and England A players, the international game starting here today will be their first experience of a five-day match. The extra demands made on concentration and skill have been stressed by their coaches and the outcome of the three-match series, sponsored by Lourho, will depend upon which team makes the more disciplined response.

England A must be favourites but the Zimbabweans should not be underestimated as they continue their efforts to gain Test match status.

In the England party Pringle has played 21 Test matches and five others have six Test caps between them. Traicos, the former South African off-spinner, is the only Zimbabwean with five-day experience.

"I have drummed into our boys that totals of 250 are not good and that 'Tests' are won by batsmen sticking there and bringing scores of at least 400 to 450," Keith Fletcher, the England coach, said.

David Houghton, the Zimbabwe captain, admits he has had nightmares about fielding while England lost a solitary wicket all day and he cited Atherton's five-hour 97 on a low, slow pitch this week against Zimbabwe B as a reason for his fears.

"These young England players, I have to admit, have already shown us the difference between their professionalism and our own approach. On a flat pitch our guys might swing the bat and make 40 before getting out. Your chaps knock down and make a hundred, irrespective of how long it takes. It is linked with cricket being the English players' livelihood," he said.

Houghton, as player and full-time coach, is Zimbabwe's only professional cricketer and has no illusions about the difficulties which face his team. Zimbabwean confidence was at a low ebb, he said, following heavy defeats by Young West Indies four months ago. A big total early in the series against England was essential if his players were to rediscover faith in themselves.

There is no doubt that Zimbabwean cricket standards have fallen away following the loss of a whole generation of players, arising from the white exodus and general upheaval at the time of

independence 10 years ago.

"We are short of players aged between 20 and 30," Houghton said. "The future, though, is brighter and the black cricketers are starting to come through. There could be a couple in the under-18 schools side and five or six in the under-16 team when they visit England this summer.

"In 15 years' time it would

not surprise us if Zimbabwe did not have 10 blacks and only one white in the full international side."

For the match starting today Zimbabwe had little option but to stick with their more seasoned players. Only Brandes, the fast bowler, who is 27 on Monday, and Andrew Flower, the wicketkeeper, who is 21, are under 30.

To help against England, Pycroft, Zimbabwe's most successful batsman, has been persuaded to return to the game after retiring two years ago. Pycroft, who is 33, has scored nearly 4,000 first-class runs and averages 44.43, according to local statisticians.

There was disappointment for England A yesterday when

Lawrence, their quickest bowler, was ruled out by the strained calf muscle which prevented him bowling on Thursday against Zimbabwe B. Lawrence will be missed on a hard, grassy pitch, which promised plenty of bounce as it lay shimmering in the hot sunshine yesterday.

Lawrence's problem is in

the right leg, where he had Achilles tendon trouble last summer and he could be risked. Whitaker, a shade unlucky, and Martin Bicknell, are the other members of the party omitted from the 12 players named.

The final choice will rest

between the left-handed Thorpe, as an extra batsman, or Illingworth, as a second left-arm spinner. Atherton's leg breaks are considered an integral part of the attack. He will bat at No. 3 and Darren Bicknell and Stephenson will open the innings.

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SPORTS BOOK OF THE WEEK

Batting in a boundless field

The pursuit of cricket memorabilia, once a genteel hobby, has mushroomed in the past decade.

Marcus Williams and Gordon Phillips trace the growth in interest and the discovery of some historic pieces.

Cricket memorabilia may be broadly defined as any object connected with this most English of games, be it 18th-century book or woodwormed bat, cigarette card or postcard, panoramic painting or polychrome print, 78rpm gramophone record or jam maker's golly badge, cherished autograph album or yellowing scrapbook, new-fangled video cassette or computer game, an abdominal protective box — yes, one of these did appear at auction — or a chunk of masonry from the perimeter wall at The Oval. In fact, the subject is almost boundless. Every one of the items is collectable, and collected by devotees, and though the appeal of some items may be too personal or esoteric for others, there exists a ready and established market for just about anything associated with cricket.

Material can turn up in the most unlikely places, although some leads can prove to be, almost literally, red herrings: more than one cricket collector has been seduced by a book entitled *A Summer on the Tex*, 1930 — only to discover that it is about fishing. However, examples of two unlikely but genuine sources can well illustrate the point: the first involves militant women, the second rubbish, and both stories also prove that the thrill of making a new discovery is far from lost.

It was a causal remark by John Kennedy Melling, an historian and critic (though not of cricket), which revealed that he did in fact own one item connected with the game.

It was a ball — could it be one with which Botham or Trueman performed great deeds, perhaps?

No, older than that — used by Bedser, maybe, or Laker?

No, earlier — Tate, Verity, Freeman?

No, before the First World War — Barnes, Rhodes, Richardson?

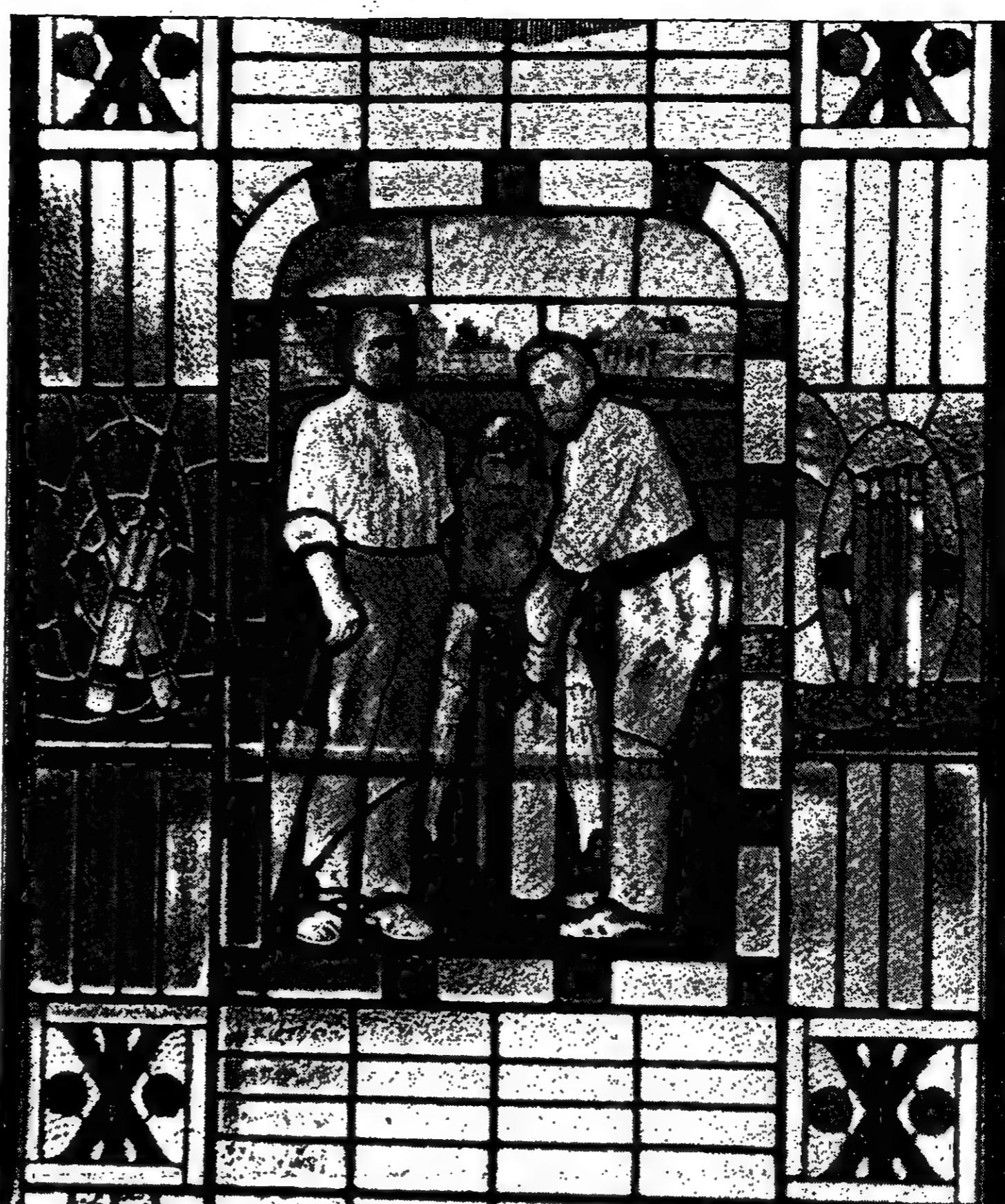
No, delivered by a female arm — female arm? Perhaps one of the Original English Lady Cricketers, who were chaperoned around the country playing games of a strictly sporting nature in the 1890s? One of those special blue cricket balls once developed for the women's game and on display at Lord's?

Still no. And so he unfolded the tale. The ball had found its way into Melling's possession nearly 20 years earlier. He was given it by a former Alderman of Essex County Council, Miriam Eileen Edwards, who had inherited it from her father. He was Superintendent Wilcox of the Metropolitan Police, whose face, beneath his flat cap, became familiar as the officer who regularly arrested Emmeline Pankhurst during the struggles of the Suffragettes. (Wilcox carried out his duty, apparently, in a most gentlemanly way, telephoning Mrs Pankhurst first to say that he was on his way.) On May 21, 1914 the campaigners' order of the day was a window-smashing protest in

Whitehall. While Mrs Higginson used as ammunition stones collected in Southend — such things were said to have been not easily found at that time in London — her companion on the raid, Mrs Marshall, hurled a more expensive missile, namely this cricket ball, through a Cabinet Minister's window, whence it was retrieved and came into Wilcox's hands. The ball carries in gold lettering the retailer's name, Army & Navy, and in black ink the protesters' message, "A PROUD & COWARDLY KING" and, beneath the stitching, "1914". The leather surface of the ball is intact apart from a few black stains and half a dozen tiny punctures, which may have been caused by the glass as the ball shattered the window. A piece of British, if not exactly cricketing, history, but a prize piece of cricketana rescued and preserved.

Rescue, too, as well as a feminine connection, was the keynote of our other late entry, involving a blazer from the 1929-30 MCC tour of the West Indies. This navy blue garment, adorned with the familiar George and Dragon badge and red and yellow piping, was found in a rubbish skip in Cheltenham by a husband whose wife had been diligently clearing out piles of unwanted stuff found in the loft. Seeing the name tag, he telephoned a friend to ask whether anybody named R.E.S. Wyatt had played for England. By happy chance the friend was also the chairman of Derbyshire County Cricket Club, and the rest is another bit of history. The blazer turned out to be the only one missing from Wyatt's collection, and Warwickshire, his former county, arranged for it to be returned to him during the Edgbaston Test match of 1989. Sixty years on, England's then oldest living Test player, and captain, was thus reunited with a treasured item presumed lost forever. What was it doing in Cheltenham? The house outside which it was rescued was believed to have belonged to Wyatt's brother.

Until quite recently the collecting of cricketana was an apparently arcane pursuit, dominated by a handful of collectors and part-time dealers, but the advent of regular sales by leading London auction houses in 1978 has brought it to a far wider audience and attracted a far wider range of material on to the market. This has, inevitably, led to an escalation of prices, much to the chagrin of some collectors who feel themselves squeezed out by the greater buying power of the full-time dealers and who question the morality that lies behind the commercial ethos, feeling that cricketana belongs to the world of cricket, not to the world of business. It has to be accepted, however, that the market-place is



Stained-glass splendour: R.G. Barlow at the crease on a window which once adorned his house and is now at Old Trafford

now dominated by the auctions, although in global terms the levels are still those of a hobby when compared to the vast sums expended on works of art. Whereas these may be calculated in millions of pounds, cricketana still rates in hundreds and sometimes in thousands. Among competitive sports, however, cricket is rivalled for range and demand only by golf, horse racing and possibly boxing: the presence of American and Japanese money, particularly in golf, makes for increased competition and thus higher prices than in cricket, although Australian bidders, first prominent at the MCC Bicentenary auction in 1987, are making their felt.

The fun of collecting is not the simple acquisition by passing a cheque over a counter; it is the fun of search, discovery and attainment. All three are the fruits of accrued knowledge gained the hard way, for to be a real collector

one needs a fatalistic outlook, a deep purse, boundless optimism and a good-natured woman about the house.

Collecting becomes a serious affliction that cannot be operated upon. No bookshop or gallery worth its salt is safe from attack. Trifid-like, what starts as a hobby mutates into a fascination that can become a compulsion.

The greatest collectors have always been, with but a few exceptions, players of only mediocre ability, their pleasure derived from the ownership of things connected with the heritage of the game, not in itself a bad substitute. Writing in *The Cricketer* (May 2, 1936), J.W. (Joe) Goldman placed himself squarely in that category — and never collected bats and balls, which he claimed not to understand.

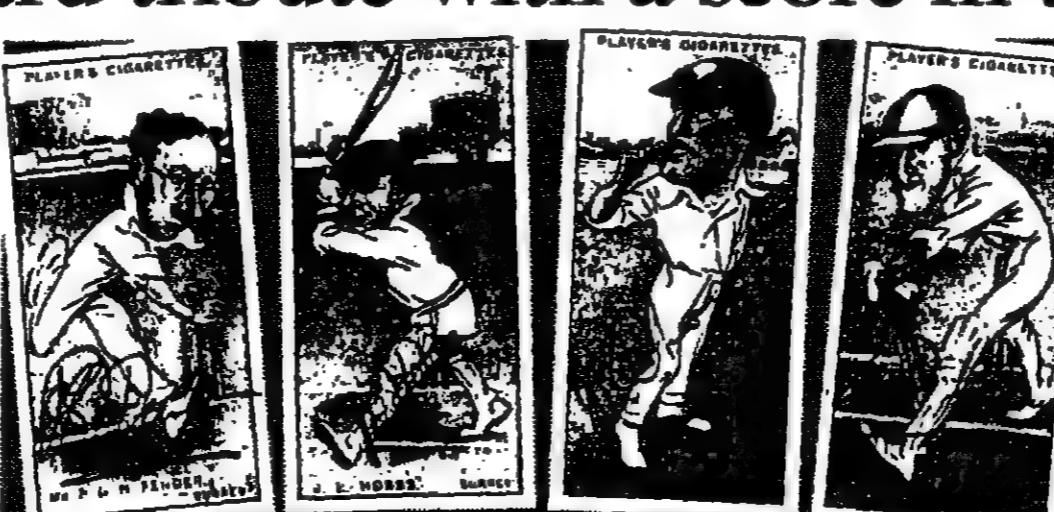
No conclusions dare to be made as to why so few active first-class cricketers show so little interest in memorabilia. Even their achievements or records of their representative sides are sometimes shrugged off. Perhaps life indeed is too short to be both a full-time player and collector, or do players become immune to inanimate historical objects dimly perceived while moving from one pavilion to another? The attitude was typified by Bob Willis, once captain of Warwickshire and England and take of 325 Test wickets, who said he had no desire "to turn my home into a shrine to myself" — he had always kept his trophies in a suitcase. Willis put his memorabilia up for auction (at Christie's in October 1988) with the laudable wish that devotees, who truly appreciate the array of blazers, shirts, jerseys, balls and medals, might have a chance to own them.

By contrast, one of the first major collectors was that most amiable of men, Richard Gordon Barlow of Lancashire and England (1851-1919), who lived in a house surrounded by memories of bat and ball, cricket trophies and "presents innumerable". With Bob Appleyard, the only other significant collector to have played Test cricket was Evelyn Rockley Wilson (1879-1957). Possessed of a proud Yorkshire snobbery — "One doesn't necessarily know cricket just because one has played for Leicestershire" — Rockley Wilson was a scholarly, erudite man, a "firm believer in the straight bat", and, with a considerable knowledge of furniture, philately and silver, was as close to Renaissance man as a cricket could claim since Felix. His home was crammed with cricket pictures, china figures, handkerchiefs and the dining room dominated by a picture of

the greatest challenge lies in acquiring long series of cards such as Taddy's 1908 series of 238 county cricketers. Being white background cards they are not easy to find in clean condition, added to which they appear to have been issued on a regional basis, making certain counties harder than others. A portion of the set, 195 in all, realised £2,400 at Phillips in November 1987, and a total of 228, sold by county, soared to £5,825 in May 1989, with the 13 Northamptonshire cards making double any other county at £850.

All pre-1914 cards sell well, but those from the 1930s, printed in millions, find a slow market. The famous Player's issues for 1934 and 1938, usually about 10-20p per card, are regularly to be found in shop windows, framed and mounted and selling for around £14.50. Since 1982-83 the *Nostalgia* reprints of the two early Wills sets, according to lettered at the base and framed in brass, are often to be seen in office displays, an elegant addition to wooden paneling in VIP corners.

Complete sets are always desirable and most sets up to the value of £50-£60 are available, given time. Beyond that it becomes a question of patience, and the dilemma is whether to acquire odd cards in a series or wait for the set. More often than not, the sets are in better condition than the singles, and it is still possible to upgrade as time goes by. Mint cards can often be worth three or four times the value of ones in inferior order, and dealers nowadays are only too aware of the value of their stock.



Cricketing caricatures: cards from 1926, drawn by "Rip" and autographed by their subjects

Between the wars, ornate printing styles and rather stilted textual notes gave way to more functional modes. Print runs by the great manufacturing companies — John Player, Ogden's, Ardath, Churchman's, Carreras, Godfrey Phillips, R. & J. Hill and J. Millhoff — became ever more gigantic and could be counted in hundreds of millions. On the principle of "lick and stick", special albums were provided by local tobacconists at the cost of a few pence.

Cricketers were sometimes portrayed within a wide range of other activities, either as politicians, actors, golfers or footballers, so that there are some 12,000 collectable cards, including varieties.

While Australian issues are second to Britain, many have come from unlikely countries, such as Italy and Belgium.

From 1900 to the 1930s few

first-class cricketers failed to appear, as well as virtually every touring team to Britain since 1899. Some faces have been overlooked, but Bradman features on more than a hundred cards and Jack Hobbs was probably represented on more cards than any other cricketer. W.G. Grace, for once, is well down the field with only about half that many, coming on the scene a little too early for this form of tribute.

Quite apart from pictures of the players, there have been grounds, old cricket prints, inspiring tips, puzzles and games, crests, ties, satirics, comic cards by Phil May, *Fun* cartoons, as well as comic characters such as Bonzo and Billy Bunter. The 1926 caricatures by "Rip", part of the Player's "Cricketers" series, are remarkable for their likenesses, characteristic postures and humour.

Few of the cards pretend to a genuine artistic appeal, and perhaps among the most attractive

are — the delicate lithographs produced in Germany for the Wills "Cricketers" sets of 1896 and 1901. By comparison their later issues, 1908, 1928 and 1929, seem garish. Other catchy early sets are the 1902 "Vanity Fair" issues — three series, each of 50 cards — and the "County Badges" set printed on silk for Godfrey Phillips. Their "Finances" sets issued between 1923 and 1925 have a dignity of their own, especially the larger size "brown backs" available from the Godfrey Phillips stand at the 1924 British Empire Exhibition.

Others look amateurish beyond belief, and a particularly striking example is the series produced by J. Baines of Bradford. These date from the 1880s to 1914-18 or thereabouts, with some 40 cards shaped as shields, bears, ivy leaves and so forth. Generally monochrome, with a band across the shield in different colours, they were distributed through local

people in the public eye included cricketers — S.E. Gregory, Trott, Ford, Philpott, Richardson and Ward.

Aided by the mechanisation of

Collecting becomes an affliction that cannot be operated upon. Trifid-like, a hobby mutates into a fascination that can become a compulsion

Fuller Pitch at the wicket. A library of over 3,000 items avoided ephemeral trash and ghosted autobiographies, and under the terms of his will MCC were blessed with first choice of the rich pickings.

Another considerable collector was said to be G. Leonard Garnsey (1881-1951), a Sheffield Shield player for New South Wales, of whom it has been written that he owned all the early Australian annuals. If that is so, "considerable" is an understatement.

How easy it must have been for the pioneer collectors. There were Padwick, Ford and Gaston advertising in *The Field and Exchange and Mart*, traversing the home counties, often in concert, purchasing eagerly everything offered for a song, while all around them the motherlode of memorabilia awaited collection with singularly little competition. Cricketana as a hobby was a genteel occupation for a narrow, almost incestuous, brotherhood of collectors. Among major collectors there was a close alliance: Thomas Padwick was at school with A.L. Ford, and his daughter married Charles Pratt Green; Padwick also happened to be a close friend of A.J. Gaston, who was in turn a close friend of W.L. Murdoch, the former Australian captain, then settled in Sussex.

Other than books, the cricketing cult came into being in the heyday of W.G. Grace, when it was fashionable for houses, both great and small, to be graced with a cricketing piece or two. Supply always rises to meet demand, so that a touch of cricket was applied to a plethora of household and personal articles — clocks, pottery figures, mugs, jugs, ashtrays and jewellery. Around the turn of the century, Gaston's articles in *Wisden* and *The Cricket Field* stimulated a keen demand for cricket books, but this was short-lived, so that by 1905 F.S. Ashley-Cooper noted that although interest in collecting was as great as ever, albeit within a tight-knit circle, prices were lower than at any period since 1890. With certain notable exceptions, prices actually remained stable and in favour of the collector virtually from Edwardian days to after the Second World War.

Such cricket items as did appear at auction were tiny portions of more cosmopolitan sales, but generally the collecting scene was moribund. There was a time between the wars when it was possible to enter an antique dealer's shop, ask for a cricketing piece, and either be met with blank astonishment, or a gruff remark that nothing of that kind had been seen for years, or be offered, from some dusty corner, an autographed bat.

The price of cards has moved sharply upwards in recent years and shows no signs of abating. Most issues between the wars are relatively easy to find, less so those from overseas. Issues pre-1914 are an entirely different matter — even in 1962 figures of 25 per card were mentioned, with 2s. (10p) the bottom line for less rare items, and some of the scarcer issues had not changed hands for 20 years or so. Rarity and price do not depend on age alone and some comparatively recent sets — especially those issued with confectionery such as the famous Barratt's issues of the late 1920s and 1930s, which include several lesser known players — can be extremely elusive. Cards issued up to 1905 are always heavily in demand, even in only fair condition. The classic sets such as the 50 cards of the Wills "Cricketers" of 1894 and 1901 will always command a premium, even though they may not be as rare as the Patricouex photographic "Cricketers" series of 96 cards, which is nigh impossible to find complete, despite its being as recent as 1922. A single Wills card from the 1896 set (Lockwood) was bought for £18 in November 1984, while the 1901 set was valued at £250 in 1983, and single cards a year later at £5 each. The 1896 set now stands tall at £1,500. As for the Patricouex set, they now average around £30 a card.

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• Extracted from *The Wisden Book of Cricket Memorabilia* by Marcus Williams and Gordon Phillips, with a foreword by John Arlott, to be published next Thursday.

Vodkatini earns Cheltenham tilt

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

By Michael Seely
Racing Correspondent

Despite being beaten a total of 16 lengths last of four behind Knockbrack at Newbury yesterday, the temperamental but talented Vodkatini remains on target for an attempt to repeat his 1988 win in the Grand Annual Chase at Cheltenham.

As usual, Joe Price, the gallops man at Finsbury and son of the famous captain, led Vodkatini up to the start. But, unfortunately, just as the 11-year-old looked ready to jump off on terms, Mr Key also proved reluctant and Vodkatini dug in his toes and was left at least 30 lengths.

"We're definitely sent him to Cheltenham," said Josh

Double duty

Champion jockey Peter Scammon is on double duty today. He rides Missions in the Philip Cotes Saddle Of Gold Stakes at Newbury and then travels by helicopter to Hereford for three more mounts — Royal Derby, Walk Of Life and Harry Lime.

Gifford. "We've got to send him to a big meeting as he's handicapped out of it on the smaller tracks. After all, he'd probably have won if he jumped off on terms today."

In a 20-year highly successful training career, Gifford failed to saddle a winner at the National Hunt Festival until two seasons ago, since when he has had five successes.

Once again, the trainer has a strong hand, including Fort Noel, his impressive Haydock winner, who goes for the Sun Alliance Hurdle. Paddybore will attempt to repeat last year's victory in the Mildmay of Flete Challenge Cup. Pragada, successful in the Coral Golden Hurdle final two seasons ago, this time will run in the Waterford Crystal Steeple Chase. Persian Style, who has not been seen in public since beating Jinx Jack at Cheltenham in November, is to take on Beech Road and Kribensis in the Champion Hurdle.

"I've got several other possible runners including Brookmount in the Queen Mother Champion Chase and Copse And Robbers in the Coral Final," the trainer added. "The trouble is my horses haven't been quite right recently and I'm just hoping that they all come on song in the next 10 days or so."

As Vodkatini had vainly struggled to regain the ground lost at the start, Brendan Powell made all the running on Knockbrack. Michael Bowby tried hard to get to grips on Mr Key in the last half-mile but the winner kept going for a 2½ lengths victory.

General Ham has no firm plans for Knockbrack but David Murray Smith intends to send the runner-up for the



Martha Pipe's Go West and Graham McCourt negotiate the water jump safely on their way to victory in the Ardington Novices' Chase at Newbury

Grand Annual Chase at the Festival.

Graham McCourt was the man in form, the jockey landing an 8-1 double on Go West and Question Of Degree.

There was an enthralling race for the March Hare Handicap Hurdle before the cameras showed that Question Of Degree had foiled the late attack of Sea Buck by a short head with Badrakhani only a head away in third place.

The bookmakers had been confident that Question Of Degree had held on and had asked for odds of 3-1 on. "I thought we'd been beaten easily until I saw the re-run," said Toby Balding, the trainer of the runner-up, "and then I thought we'd won."

The gallant winner has now won three of his last four races for Nigel Tinkler, the Maiton trainer. "He only just says the trip," he said. "I thought he was going to win by four lengths at the last, but he only just held on. We'll probably bring him back here for the next meeting for the Spring Handicap Hurdle."

Like most of us, Tinkler thoughts are now turning to

wards Cheltenham and the trainer has three probable runners. Bank View, the winner of Haydock Park's Champion Hurdle Trial, goes for the championship, Sayture for the Triumph Hurdle and Smart Performer for the County Hurdle.

David Barons was another trainer to come on song as the Festival approaches and the Kingsbridge trainer watched Sketcher run out the wide-margin winner of the Radcot Handicap Hurdle by 10 lengths after Fanny Dillon, the favourite, had weakened in the straight to finish unplaced.

"I have three or four runners at Cheltenham," said the Devon trainer. "Seagram only 10s 3b in the Ritz Club Handicap. And after the way he ran when third to Desert Orchid in the *Racing Post* Chase at Kempton last Saturday, he's going to take a lot of beating."

In the Soapey Sponge Hunters' Chase, Dromore Castle eventually ran out a comfortable winner by five lengths in the hands of Nigel Ridout.

Waterloo Cup triumph for Sam The Man

Coursing by Graham Rock

Fakenham hunter chase winner, Ferroquet.

Carl's Choice is also entered for the men's open, which could see the re-appearance of the 1988 Liverpool Foxhunters' winner, Newham.

The West Shropshire are to be congratulated on continuing with their adjacent hunt race as a novices' event for horses that have not won more than three races. Although only 33 entries were received, it has been split. Cire Ryne has Adamore to beat in the first of these while Fibreguide Tech may just have the edge over Ahalin in the other.

Linton Highflyer, handled by Jackie McGinty, who trains at Hall greyhound stadium, beat Fine Sennit in the Waterville Plate, while the Waterville Purse went to Majella's Bimbo, who readily accounted for Crossfield Star.

In his absence, Senator Of Rome, ridden by his trainer, Seamus Mullins, looks to be the pick in the second division of the open with Luton and a 13-year-old may still outpace most of his younger rivals.

At the Bicester, with nine races on the card, secretary Terese Ewell will have a busy afternoon, also fitting in riding engagements. Best of these looks to be Barrow's dual win at the Military and the ladies' leading race, Border Bury. The 1987 champion hunter chaser, is down to go in the open and the 13-year-old may still outpace most of his younger rivals.

Borden Sun took a race or two to come to hand last season but ended by being narrowly defeated in the Piper Champagne Hunter Chase at Cheltenham. Connections will be hoping to qualify him for the Aintree final at this year's competition, fitting through the qualifiers at the adjacent race at the Bessford.

Dromon Jester would have been a big stumbling block here but David Naylor-Leyland is waiting instead for the Duke of Gloucester Memorial Hunter Chase at Sandown on Friday.

A triple winner already this season, Roscoe Boy, and stable companion Sweet Diana, who has not yet had an outing this term, are also well-qualified for the RMC qualifier at the Cheltenham.

With Ferroquet, Carl's Choice, Summons and Skyrange possibly in the line-up, this represents, on paper, the best ladies' race for many years. My vote just goes to Helen Vergette on the

Ingleby Star should shine on new track

Point-to-point by Brian Beal

The South Durhams, who will be using for the first time the newly-constructed course at Howe Hills, near Sedgwick, will benefit from the misfortune of the loss of the Tynevale, off due to this year's snow.

On the nearby National Hunt course, Ingleby Star just got his second win in a maiden hunter chase 11 days ago and this combination is likely to start favourite for the open race.

Ask Jean pulled up at the Slimming last Saturday but the race will have brought her on and she should, on last season's form, be capable of winning the ladies' race for Jean Brown.

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Rectory Boy gets vote

elsewhere to Light General and Rectory Boy.

Charlie Farrell is riding with supreme confidence at the moment but Light General, while looking sure to be in the frame, may not be quite good enough to win. He is sure to start at a shorter price than the 1989 triple point-to-point winner, Rectory Boy, who narrowly gets the nod.

Golden Casinge should justify short odds at Market Rasen (4.0).

Today's meetings

Wincanton: Whistlers Chase, Merton, 5m N of Bury (first race 12.0, Cambridge to Cottenham, 5m S of Bury, 2nd race 12.30, Newbury, 2nd race 12.30, Newbury, 3rd race 12.30, Newbury, 4th race 12.30, Newbury, 5th race 12.30, Newbury, 6th race 12.30, Newbury, 7th race 12.30, Newbury, 8th race 12.30, Newbury, 9th race 12.30, Newbury, 10th race 12.30, Newbury, 11th race 12.30, Newbury, 12th race 12.30, Newbury, 13th race 12.30, Newbury, 14th race 12.30, Newbury, 15th race 12.30, Newbury, 16th race 12.30, Newbury, 17th race 12.30, Newbury, 18th race 12.30, Newbury, 19th race 12.30, Newbury, 20th race 12.30, Newbury, 21st race 12.30, Newbury, 22nd race 12.30, Newbury, 23rd race 12.30, Newbury, 24th race 12.30, Newbury, 25th race 12.30, Newbury, 26th race 12.30, Newbury, 27th race 12.30, Newbury, 28th race 12.30, Newbury, 29th race 12.30, Newbury, 30th race 12.30, Newbury, 31st race 12.30, Newbury, 32nd race 12.30, Newbury, 33rd race 12.30, Newbury, 34th race 12.30, Newbury, 35th race 12.30, 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Notice payment within definition of wages

Kouravous v J. R. Masterton & Sons (Demolition) Ltd
Before Lord Mayfield, Mr B. McCaughan and Mr A. J. Ramsden [Judgment February 22]

A payment in lieu of notice came within the definition of wages in section 7(1) of the Wages Act 1986 and an industrial tribunal had jurisdiction to consider a complaint by an employee that in failing to make such a payment his employers had made a deduction from his wages contrary to section 1(1) of the Wages Act 1986.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal sitting in Edinburgh so held when allowing an appeal by the employee, Manousos Kouravous, from the decision of a Glasgow industrial tribunal in August 1989 that they had no jurisdiction to hear his complaint against his employers, J. R. Masterton & Sons (Demolition) Ltd.

Section 7 of the 1986 Act provides "(1) ... 'wages', in relation to a worker, means any sums payable to the worker by his employer in connection with his employment, including (a) any fee, bonus, commission, holiday pay or other entitlement referable to his employment, whether payable under his contract or otherwise..."

Section 8 provides "(3) Where the total amount of any wages that are paid on any occasion by an employer to any worker employed by him is less

than the total amount of the wages that are properly payable ... then, except in so far as the deficiency attributable to an error of computation ... the amount of the deficiency shall be treated ... as a deduction made by the employer from the worker's wages on that occasion."

Mr Joe O'Hara, legal officer of the General Municipal Boilermakers, for the employee, the employers did not appear and were not represented.

Lord MAYFIELD said that the employee was involved in an industrial accident in 1985. He did not return to work and after a certain amount of correspondence his employers wrote to him in February 1989 terminating his employment.

The employee submitted to the industrial tribunal that he had been entitled to notice on termination of his employment and, as notice had not been given, he was entitled to a sum appropriate to his wages and length of service; and that failure to pay such sum was a deduction in terms of section 1(1) of the Wages Act 1986.

The industrial tribunal took the view that payment in lieu of notice represented damages for breach of contract by the employers, particularly in terms of the employees' contract and did not fall within the definition of wages.

But, the question whether

payment in lieu of notice was recoverable only by sum for breach of contract begged the question of intent. The question was whether pay in lieu of notice was damages unpaid wages, but whether the industrial tribunal had jurisdiction under the Wages Act 1986.

It was not fatal to an employee's claim that there were defences to it at common law.

Regard had to be paid to section 8(3) which required an industrial tribunal to ascertain the "wages which are properly payable" by the employer to a worker on a particular occasion.

Accordingly, as an industrial tribunal had come to the conclusion that wages in lieu of notice fell within the wide words of section 7(1) of the Act, it was necessary to consider the provisions of the Act to ascertain whether wages in lieu of notice were within the jurisdiction of the industrial tribunal.

It was held that a deduction in section 7(1) was clear that the general words of that subsection were couched in wide terms, referring as it did to "any sums payable to the worker by his employer in connection with his employment".

The words "any sums" had to be regarded as meaning what they said. In the tribunal's view, they were clearly intended to include any and all payments connected with employment.

It was difficult to see how a payment of wages in lieu of notice was other than intimately connected with employment.

The word "including" in section 7(1) was not exhaustive, but the subsection dealt with a variety of matters which often appeared in terms and conditions of contract additional to actual wages.

The general words were not limited to sums payable under a contract. Furthermore, section 7(2) deals with express exclusions, and it was not necessary to deduce that the matters set out had been expressly excluded because otherwise they would fall within the general words.

For the purpose of section 8(3) there was no distinction between a deduction which was not the subject of dispute, which an employer had made, and a deduction which was in dispute because the employer said he was not liable to make the payment.

There was force in the contention that if the Act was not to apply to a non-payment, it could not govern a deduction of 100 per cent of the wages due on any occasion. The reference to "wages which are properly payable" in section 8(3) did not require that some payment be made before there could be a deduction.

The industrial tribunal had concluded that where nothing at all had been paid, that could not be a "deduction". It was assumed that in dispute, the tribunal had jurisdiction to determine that matter.

The tribunal regretted that having reached its decision, it had not been able to apply it to the almost simultaneous judgment in *Delaney v R. J. Staples (a/De Montfort Recruitment)* (The Times February 8, 1990).

Burden of proof lies on the feller of protected tree

Regina v Brightman
Regina v Alastair Construction Ltd
Before Lord Justice Russell, Mr Justice Turner and Mr Justice Potts [Judgment February 20]

Where a tree which was the subject of a preservation order was cut down, the burden of proof on the issue of whether it had become dangerous so as to justify felling was with the local authority's consent under section 60(6) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971, fell upon the person responsible for cutting it down.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing the appeals of Greenville Geoffrey Brightman and Alastair Construction Ltd against their convictions on January 24, 1989, in St Albans Crown Court (Mr Recorder Zucker, QC and a jury) of a preservation order of a tree standing on the land was a beech tree which was close to one of the dwelling houses. The appellants made a number of applications for permission to fell the beech tree, but they were all refused.

In October 1987 there was a great storm which ravaged many areas of the UK. It was common ground that on October 17 the beech tree was cut down upon the instructions of the local authority's consent under section 60(6) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971, fell upon the person responsible for cutting it down.

It was a matter for the industrial tribunal to determine on the facts of the case, what was "properly payable" and, if the matter was in dispute, the tribunal had jurisdiction to determine that matter.

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TRAVEL

Caribbean cricket-hopping

Inspired by England's success in the first of the five West Indian Tests, James Henderson and Brian Viner propose a sporting island tour



Universal obsession: cricket is played everywhere, and represents the Caribbean's sturdiest ladder to fame

The Jamaicans are the second best hustlers in the Caribbean. The Haitians are better, but there can't be too many Caribbean experiences more intimidating than being hustled in a Kingston side street.

"Hey London, wha' appenin'? Wha' canna do fer yer, man?" The hustler offers a complete inventory of services of doubtful appeal, but he has the *lyric*, and once he's found his line and length he won't be stonewalled. Eventually, you end up parting with cash.

The cricketing metaphor is an apt one. Mention the game and this Caribbean Arthur Daley becomes your best friend.

In Jamaica, where England started its five-Test series so splendidly, cricket is a national obsession. During a Test match the otherwise relentless rap of dance-hall reggae falls silent, because every radio is tuned to the commentary from Sabina Park. Politics divide, but cricket unites — a cliché, but an apt one, for the nation is led in its love of cricket by none other than Michael Manley, the Prime Minister.

His book, *A History of West Indian Cricket* (published in 1988), has an introduction by former captain Clive Lloyd. "Cricket," Lloyd says, "is the ethon around which West Indian society revolves. All our experiments in Caribbean integration either failed or have maintained a dubious desirability; but cricket remains the instrument of Caribbean cohesion."

More than that, West Indian cricket reflects the Caribbean way of life, both in its diversity of colour and its uniformity of spirit. The British can be immensely proprietorial about cricket, and about the democratic political system we have bequeathed to the Caribbean, but the West Indies has given both its own stamp.

In Guyana, host to the second Test, March 9-14, fewer than a million people live in a country larger than Britain, most of them along a coastal strip which skirts impenetrable mountains and rainforest.

Desperately poor and beset by economic problems, Guyana, on the South American mainland, is included in the West Indies because of its British heritage. Here, as everywhere in the Caribbean, youngsters defend biscuit-wickets on any piece of open ground. The bigger boys bat and bowl (always with a bent arm) and the toddlers man the outfield. Clive Lloyd himself graduated



from cricket on a Guyanese dirt-track.

As in Trinidad, where the third Test is to be played on March 23-28, the population of Guyana is a surprising mix. About half the Guyanese are of East Indian stock, their ancestors brought over as indentured labourers after the final emancipation of the African slaves.

In both Guyana and Trinidad, the evening skyline is silhouetted with the prayer-flags of the Hindus and the domed mosques of the Muslim faithful. And East Indians, too, have left their mark on West Indian cricket, in players like the graceful little Guyanese left-hander, Kallicharran, and Sonny Ramadhin, the mesmeric Trinidadian spinner of the 1950s.

Trinidad lies seven miles off the Venezuelan coast. It is the home of the Caribbean Carnival, an explosive month-long celebration of calypso and fetes (rum and dancing parties) which culminated on Shrove Tuesday. Port of Spain heaved with the masquerade. Bands of brightly dressed dancers a thousand strong were all shifting in time.

But in the hills above Port of Spain life goes on as normal. It was there, in the Maraval valley, that we came across a dozen kids playing cricket in the road. In turn we were handed the makeshift bat and sent in to defend the inevitable biscuit-tin lid against the might of the gangly Winston, aged 11. Is it possible to swing an ancient tennis ball? Anyway, it took just two deliveries to humiliate us both; two tremendous clatters and peals of little-boy laughter from the outfield. "Well you better bowl man, if yer kyan bat."

Who knows if one of these

25 years of the domestic championship, once the Shell Shield and now the Red Stripe Cup, Barbados has been victorious a record 12 times. Such stars as Gordon Greenidge and Malcolm Marshall have ensured a smooth transition from the Sobers era.

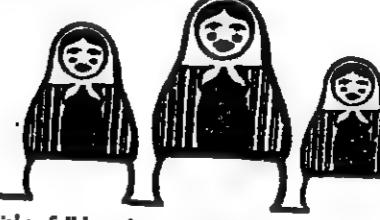
The Leeward island of Antigua, where the final Test of the series gets under way on April 12, is smaller even than Barbados. It is also the youngest nation of the five Test hosts, having gained independence in 1981.

Like Barbados, Antigua derives most of its income from tourism. Two hundred years ago it was just another sugar factory, its every square inch covered with swathes of 12ft sugar cane interrupted now and then by a plantation house and windmill. Now just the conical shells of the mills survive and the countryside is bare; but it is the beaches, used only for smuggling in the 18th century, that people come for.

TRAVEL NOTES

A number of companies offer tours covering Test and One-Day matches in Trinidad, Barbados and Antigua. Guillever Sports Travel arranges trips to individual islands and combinations (between 17 and 24 days). Information: 0884 293 175. Caribbean Connection also offers individual island packages and combinations to the last three Tests. Independent travellers can be booked in. Information: 01-631 4462. For the independent-minded, it is possible to find accommodation at this time of year but being high season it can be expensive (single travellers beware — rooms are usually charged as doubles). Test Match tickets cost about the same as they do in this country: £15-£25 per day.

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Price for 7 nights full board in a twin bedded room on the Beyond The Arctic Circle Tour departing 11 March-28 April. Visa admin charge £7. WORLDWIDE For full details see your travel agent or call us on 01-387 9321. Holidays subject to availability. Thomson Holidays Ltd. ATOL 152. ABTA 58213.

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KEYCODE

WALES	Llan Fawr (I)	Polo Beach Club (I)	Montealto
1ST NUMBER—WEEKS	52/5057	36, 37/1/8037	252/P004
193/W060	51, 52/5054	3, 45/8034	Porto Golf (I)
73/W055	21/8043	43, 44/1/8031	11, 17/8035
132/W073	42/8055	45, 46/8033	12, 13/1/P012
3RD NUMBER—REFERENCE			16/2/P018
E.G. 14, 132/5439			
WEEKS 144-15			
BEDROOMS 2			
CH NUMBER/REF 5439			
ENGLAND			
Alton House (RC)			
40/1/8024			
Campfield Colleges (RC)			
30/1/8035			
Devonport (S)			
40, 51/80372			
Elmwood Court (RC)			
41/2/80375			
42/2/80378			
Hilton Court (S)			
10/2/80379			
The Llanishen Village (I)			
22/2/8028			
22/2/80362			
The Osborne Hotel (RC)			
34/2/80380			
Water Hall (RC)			
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£428 £778	£428 £778	£305 £495	£392 £692	£253 £422	£285 £339	£175 £289	£399
AUCKLAND	BALI	YOKOHAMA	LAOS	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON
£223 £546	£223 £546	£223 £546	£223 £546	£223 £546	£223 £546	£223 £546	£223 £546
SINGAPORE	BAKU	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON
£260 £506	£260 £506	£260 £506	£260 £506	£260 £506	£260 £506	£260 £506	£260 £506
TOKYO	DELHI/BOMBAY	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON
£341 £627	£341 £627	£341 £627	£341 £627	£341 £627	£341 £627	£341 £627	£341 £627
MAURITIUS	2420 £627	2420 £627	2420 £627	2420 £627	2420 £627	2420 £627	2420 £627

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£223 £546	£223 £546	£223 £546	£223 £546	£223 £546	£223 £546	£223 £546	£223 £546
SINGAPORE	BAKU	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON
£260 £506	£260 £506	£260 £506	£260 £506	£260 £506	£260 £506	£260 £506	£260 £506
TOKYO	DELHI/BOMBAY	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	JOHNSON
£341 £627	£341 £627	£341 £627	£341 £627	£341 £627	£341 £627	£341 £627	£341 £627
MAURITIUS	2420 £627	2420 £627	2420 £627	2420 £627	2420 £627	2420 £627	2420 £627

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Brush up the old paintwork

Painting is one of those activities which nearly everyone thinks it would be fun to take up, if only there was enough time. It looks so enjoyable and relaxing and this initial impression is true. Painting is totally absorbing. There are now a large number of painting holidays and short breaks available, both at home and abroad; some are for just a weekend, others are for two weeks or more; all are with tuition from qualified artists.

These holiday courses begin at the most elementary level and progress to what are virtually master-classes. Between them they cover all the disciplines: water-colours, oils, pastels, gouache, pen and ink. Subject matter is equally varied with specialist courses on such areas as painting portraits or miniatures, Chinese brush painting, still life, landscape and life drawing.

Many of the courses take place in lovely locations at the ideal time of year when the weather is likely to be warm, the flowers



are out, and artistically floppy hats will not look at all out of place on those who are painting out of doors. Not only are the courses good fun, they are also effective. Most people return with new skills and much-boosted confidence.

As hobbies go, painting is fairly inexpensive. Most of the travel companies will supply a comprehensive list of the items you require for any particular course or holiday. If you take to the pastime and want to go a little further, an easel will cost between £25-£30, and a stool about £15. It pays to buy good quality materials, but the beginner can start painting for an outlay of no more than £50.

A magazine, full of advice for would-be artists, is *Leisure Painter*, published monthly by Artist Publishing Company, Caxton House, High Street, Tenterden, Kent TN30 6BD (0580 3673). Price £1.35, annual subscription £17.50.

Robin Neillands

experienced could try "Advanced Oils" in August, from £289 for one week, all inclusive.

Although the groups are kept small, it is not uncommon for different levels of ability to attend the same one. Much of the tuition is on an individual basis, and the students also learn from each other. Advice on holiday choice can be obtained from Mrs Elsie Lloyd at Artscapes in Britain, the company's holidays are often based at agricultural colleges where the facilities are excellent and the surrounding countryside full

PAINTING HOLIDAYS

The widest range of painting holidays and courses comes from Artscapes Holidays of Southend-on-Sea, which caters for every level of ability over a wide range of disciplines, including oils, water-colour, acrylic and pastels.

Two introductory holidays aimed at complete beginners are "Principles of Oils", which costs £287 for seven days, full board and tuition included, and "Principles of Water-colours" at £346, also one week and full board. The more

of interest, but Artscapes also runs holidays abroad.

Would-be Van Goghs can try 10 days of "Landscape Painting" at St Remy in Provence from £290, or "Building and Landscape Painting" in the Belgian city of Bruges, which once played host to the Van Eycks. A painting week in Bruges costs from £379 in June or July. Study courses, which include guided visits to art galleries and museums, are available in Florence and Paris from £493. Other holiday painting locations include Siena in Tuscany and Gubbio in Umbria.

These include seven days on "Water-colour Painting for Beginners" in early June from £270 for residents, full board, or from £152 for non-residents.

Courses cover both oil and water-colour painting, mostly landscapes, starting with basic techniques and moving to a more advanced level. There are individual fact-sheets for all these holidays.

Painting is also among the many activities offered by HF Holidays ranging from "Painting for Beginners" and "Water-colours for Beginners", to "Drawing for Fun" and a new one: "Cartooning". Prices start at around £210 for one week, full board, including tuition.

A week "Drawing and Painting Church" offers lectures and visits, costs a similar sum; while four days on "Further Steps in Water-colour Painting" for the more advanced student, cost £182 for residents and £104 for non-residents.

Full details and brochures can be obtained from the Earley Concourse on the telephone number given below.

The Field Studies Council (FSC) is another body which includes painting among a wide range of other activity holidays, and sets many of them at the Flatford Mill Study Centre, deep in the heart of Constable country.

Many of these FSC painting courses are wedded to a wildlife theme and involve painting trees or flowers. Courses available include "Landscape Painting and Drawing", one week, full board for £172, or "Introducing Flower Painting", five days for £140.

There is also a weekend on "Working with Water-colours", which is an introductory course for those interested in learning the basic techniques of water-colour painting. Price £85, full board for £100.

These FSC painting courses cover a wide range of subjects: portrait, landscape, flowers and still-life, and the tuition, from professional artists such as Roy Freer and Grenville Cottingham, is of a high standard.

Another useful source of information on painting and other kinds of activity holidays is *Let's Do It!*, published by William Curtis at £2.95, available at bookshops.

For details please complete the coupon below.

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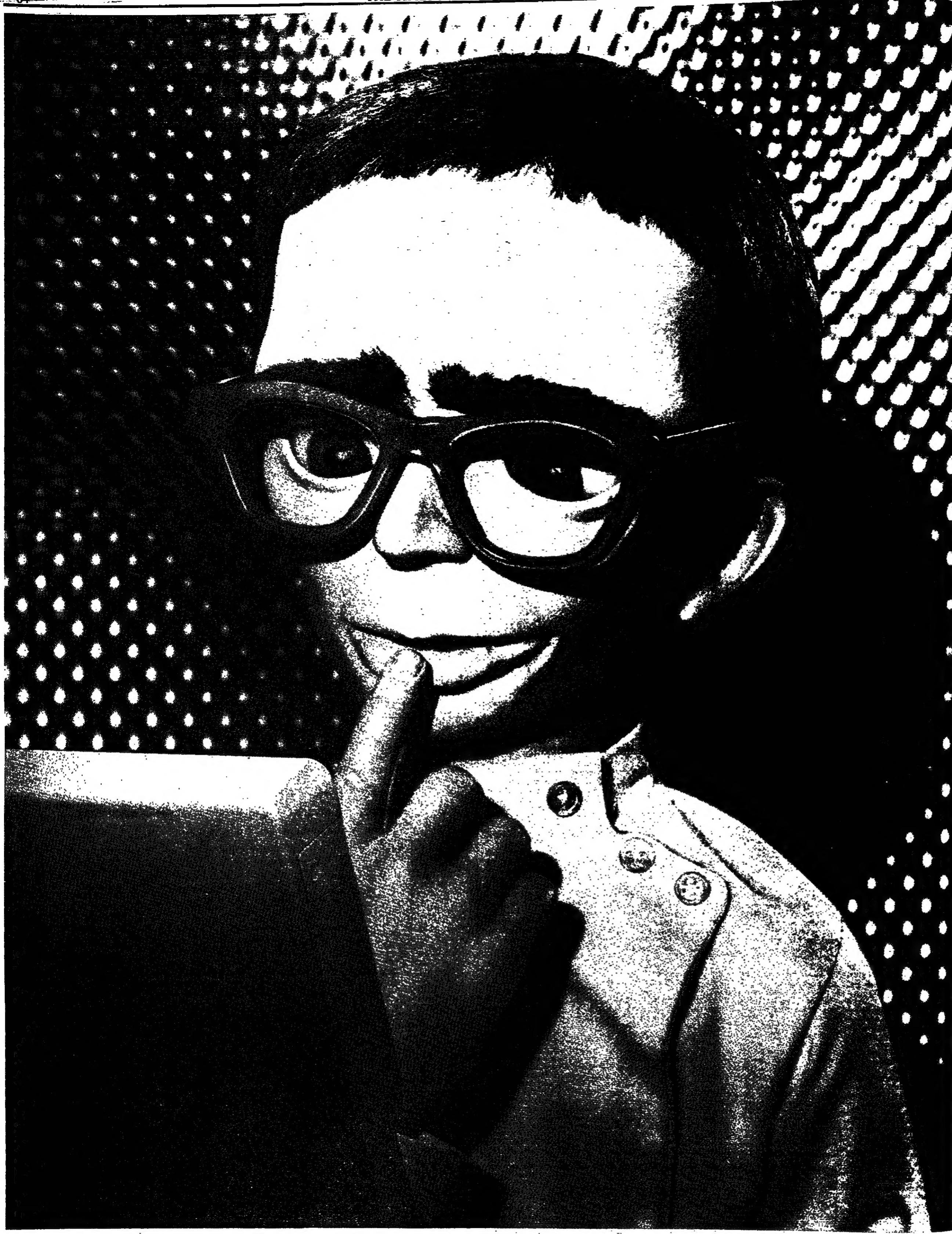
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